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Igisomar wants House to amend weed bill accordingly. PAGE 5

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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'Our sanctuaries are being raped'

KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

Kelly Tenorio, left, and Adriana Cotero share their experiences during their trip to the Northern Islands last April during the Rotary Club of Saipan weekly meeting yesterday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

Eyewitnesses have made allegations that the sanctuaries within the Marianas archipelago have been trespassed and tampered with, illegally.

The three northernmost islands in the Marianas archipelago—Farallon de Pajaros (Uracas), Maug, and Asuncion—were all included in the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument that was established by President George Bush on Jan. 6, 2009. The monument's intent was to ensure protection of over 95,000 square miles of seafloor and waters in the Mariana Archipelago.

The Office of National Marine Sanctuaries was mandated and promised to conduct educational and research programs, as well as resource protection, but they allegedly have not.

During the Rotary Club of Saipan's weekly meeting yesterday at the Hyatt Regency's Giovanni's restaurant, Kelly Tenorio, Northern Islands

See RAPED on Page 4

DPS: Cop's investigation files among several documents misplaced

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The files in connection with the Department of Public Safety's internal investigation into the case of Police Officer 1 Dixon Kwon, who is facing several traffic charges, including driving while under the influence of alcohol, were among several files that were misplaced when the DPS Internal Affairs Investigation Division relocated to its new office last year, according to DPS information officer Jacqueline

See DPS on Page 4

BEA CABRERA

Northern Islands Mayor Vicente Santos, right, and former Alamagan residents aboard the *Super Emerald* are trying to find ways to go back to the island. Behind them is Alamagan Island where seven people currently reside.

Revitalizing life in the Northern Islands

By BEA CABRERA
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CORRESPONDENT

PAGAN—The Northern Islands Mayor's Office is currently working on plans to revitalize the Northern Islands to attract residents to come back in hopes that they can boost the population.

According to Northern Islands Mayor Vicente B. Santos, there are currently 13 people thriving in the Northern Islands—four on Agrigan, two on Pagan, and seven on Alamagan.

"All I want is to see all the Northern Islanders to go back to the islands so they can re-populate and rebuild the islands. I know that is not easy but we are willing to help those who show interest," he said.

Santos said developing the is-

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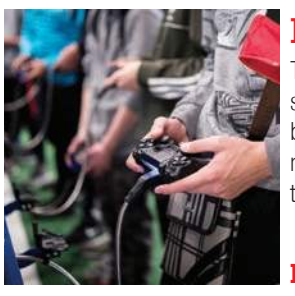
INSIDE

BUSINESS
President Donald Trump directed the U.S. Trade Representative to prepare new tariffs on $200 billion in Chinese imports on Monday as the two nations moved closer to a potential trade war.
PAGE 14



FOCUS
The World Health Organization says video gamers now should be on guard for a danger in the real world: spending too much time playing.
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LIFE & STYLE
Troubled rapper-singer XXXTentacion was shot and killed Monday in Florida in what police called an apparent robbery attempt.
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Local

‘He did things out of the box; he was a visionary’

» Beach Road pathway signage finally unveiled

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

ERWIN ENCINARES
Senate President and acting governor Arnold Palacios (R-Saipan), House Speaker Rafael Demapan (R-Saipan), and Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang cut the ribbon officially renaming the Saipan Beach Road Pathway to the Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio Beach Road Pathway with family members of the former governor yesterday.

Signages officially recognizing the Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio Beach Road Pathway were unveiled yesterday in honor of the former CNMI governor.

The Department of Public Works unveiled these signages, which are located at the beginning and end of the 5-kilometer pathway, during a ribbon cutting ceremony yesterday at its southern end.

Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), who is also acting governor, said the pathway was a project of the former governor, who reportedly weighed whether to use the funds for a different purpose instead.

“We as a community have come to…appreciate the vision and the effort that [Tenorio] put on behalf of our community,” said Palacios, adding that visitors to Saipan marvel at the pathway.

“Today our community is certainly using this simple, iconic [pathway] that not only gives you the pleasure of walking while enjoying the scenery but also [takes care of your health],” he said, referring to the several exercise stations scattered along the pathway.

House Speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan), author of the 2016 legislation that renamed the pathway in honor of the former governor, said in an interview that Tenorio was a “make things happen-guy.”

The pathway, according to the speaker, was a hot topic

See VISIONARY on Next Page

Docomo Pacific is under new management

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The Docomo Pacific introduced last Friday their new CEO who has some promising ideas for Docomo Pacific CNMI and Guam under his management.

During the Docomo Pacific check donation to the Public School System last Friday at the Aqua Resort Saipan, Docomo introduced their new CEO, Roderick Boss, who replaced former CEO Jonathan Kriegel.

Boss

According to Boss, he has taken up the position of Docomo Pacific CEO for a little over two weeks and aims to bring the very best and latest technology to Guam and CNMI, first.

“I’ve been here for two weeks and I am actually moving here from Japan and I am really looking forward to working here. I have a great team in Guam and in the CNMI and I am really looking forward to working with everyone,” he said.

Boss wasted no time in bringing technological advancement to the CNMI. According to him, he has already started discussions about bringing 5G network to the CNMI and Guam before Japan and the U.S. which aims to launch the network in 2020.

“We are in discussions now in bringing in a 5G to Guam initially and what that is the latest cellular technology… It will be bringing high speeds…it is something that will be launched in 2020 in Japan and the U.S. but we are talking about bringing that here very soon. There is no scheduled dates on anything,” he said.

Boss said that he doesn’t know what the future will bring under his management but he knows that it will continue to make the lives of CNMI and Guam residents easier. “…And I’m really looking forward to what that new technology is and we in Docomo Pacific want to be first in bringing that here,” he said.

Although under new management, Boss said that the intent stays the same and that is to ensure quality service to the community they serve.

“This is an industry where a lot of new technology comes first so I think that I am also looking at ahead like what are the applications of that… we will always find ways to get close to the community we serve and it was something that was really important to [Jonathan Kriegel] and it is very important for me as well,” he said.

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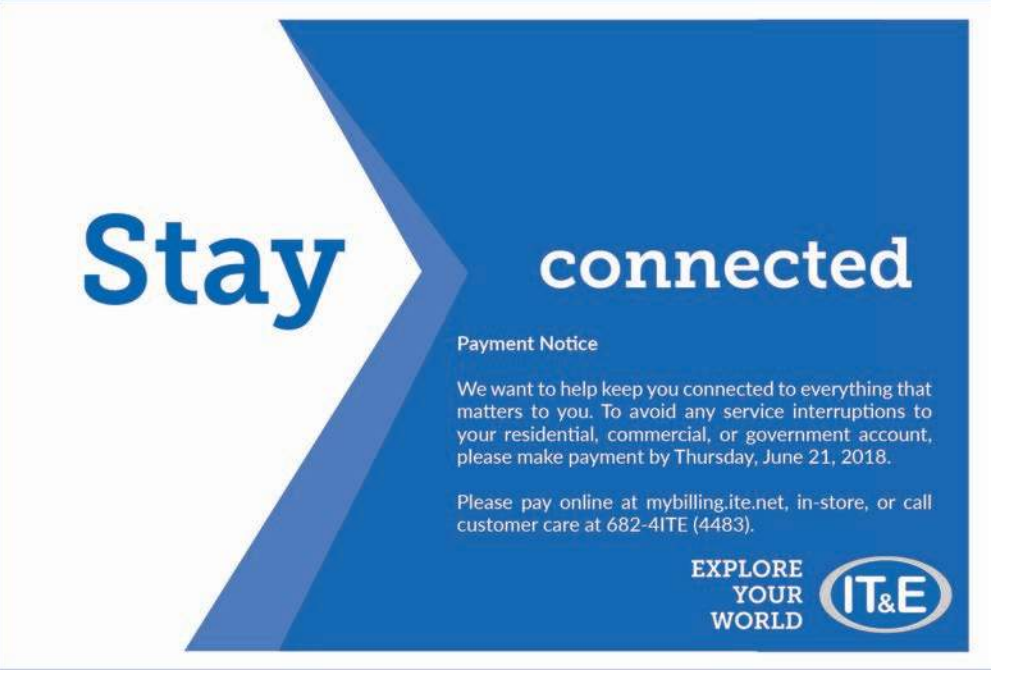
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IT&E

CEC certifies Democratic Party as a recognized political party

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Election Commission board has certified the Democratic Party of the Northern Marianas as a recognized political party in the CNMI.

CEC administrative officer Kayla Igitol disclosed yesterday that during the board meeting last Thursday, the commissioners granted the request of the Democratic Party to be fully recognized as a political party organization under the laws of the CNMI.

Quitugua

To be recognized, the Democratic Party was required to submit all the necessary documents to prove they did organize for this Nov. 6 general election. The party failed to submit candidates for all seats for the Nov. 8, 2016 election and in the previous elections.

Present during the board meeting were CEC executive director Julita Villagomez, pro tem chair Jesus Sablan and commissioners Patricia Mareham, Henry Emery Kaipat, Joseph E. Santos, Lelanie M. Manglona, and Esther A. Yatar. Assistant attorney general Charles Brasington also attended the meeting.

The Democratic Party's request to be recognized was signed by its chair Daniel O. Quitugua, vice chair Janet King, secretary Jonathan P. Cabrera, and treasurer Emiliana Chargualaf.

CEC administrative officer Igitol also disclosed that Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has nominated Vicente T. King as commissioner representing Tinian and Aguiguan.

Igitol said the Senate's Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations held a public hearing on the nomination of King at the Tinian Courthouse last June 11.

There are two more vacant commissioner positions representing Saipan and the Northern Islands.

VISIONARY

From Page 2

for debate since there were those that believed that the funding for the pathway could be used for something else.

"…Because of the vision of the [former] governor, we are here today, enjoying the pathway," he said, adding that the pathway is about 20 years old.

"We just hope the people will remember the former governor for his hard work and services, and also as a former representative of the CNMI," he said.

Tenorio's niece, Carla Torres, expressed her gratitude toward Demapan for introducing the bill. She added that Tenorio is currently residing in Dallas, Texas.

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Torres meets with DOD, Idaho governor

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres would be meeting with U.S. Department of Defense officials and the Idaho governor, while the Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog is off-island on a separate trip, leaving Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) as the acting governor until their return.

The governor, according to press secretary Kevin Bautista, is in Boise, Idaho to meet with DOD Office of Economic Adjustment, or OEA, Western Regional Director Gary Kuwabara on local community development grant opportunities and grant management capacity grant funding

The OEA's primary mission is to help local communities adapt to DoD program changes, expansions and cutbacks, as well as incompatibilities between military operations and local development. OEA works with other federal agencies to help ensure local communities have access to the full breadth of federal resources and serves as a focal point for transition assistance.

"Given the military's pivot into the Pacific, the OEA has been a critical partner for the Office of the Governor in determining critical federal resources that will allow for not only employment and funding opportunities, but also in ensuring community involvement within military discussions so that local concerns are heard and transitions run smoothly," Bautista said.

Torres' pursuit of grant management capacity funding allows for the development of young and local residents to receive the proper training needed to work in the federal grants process, he added.

Under Torres' direction, Bautista said the CNMI Office of Grants Management has been at the forefront of applying for, competing for, and receiving about $200 million of awarded federal funds for the CNMI over the last three years. He said the management capacity funding creates a pipeline for local graduates, young people, and seasoned financial analysts to receive training to add to this progress.

Torres meets Idaho governor

Torres during his trip would also be meeting with Idaho Gov. Butch Otter to discuss "strengthening the partnership" between the CNMI and Boise State University, or BSU—Torres' alma mater.

"[Torres] initiated the discussions to have… [CNMI] students visit the state office and transition smoothly into college," said Bautista, referring to the 10 incoming BSU students this fall semester.

"Through collaborations with the Marianas Young Professionals and the Million Dollar Scholars Program under the leadership of 2017 CNMI Teacher of the Year Gerard Van Gils, the Million Dollar Scholars Program now has a partnership with Boise State University. The two governors' meeting further fostered the relationship between the CNMI and BSU," he said.

Bautista's statement did not specify the date of the governor's return.

Saipan Tribune attempted to ask about Hocog's whereabouts, however John O. Gonzales, Hocog's chief of staff, was unable to respond at the time of writing.

According to those familiar, Hocog has been off-island for over a month.

Federal court judge dismisses Star Marianas suit vs CPA

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The federal court dismissed yesterday the lawsuit filed by Star Marianas Air Inc. against the Commonwealth Ports Authority for allegedly assessing the company unreasonable user fees.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood ruled that Star Marianas is required to exhaust its administrative remedies and the Anti-Head Tax Act (AHTA) claim must be dismissed.

Tydingco-Gatewood, however, granted Star Marianas' request to amend its breach of contract claim.

"Because the court has concluded that there is no private right of action under the AHTA and the federal question claim must be dismissed, the court will also dismiss the breach of contract claim for lack of jurisdiction," the judge said.

However, this case is in the early stages of litigation and no answer to Star Marianas' complaint has been filed, said Tydingco-Gatewood as she allowed the airline to amend its breach of contract claim.

Robert T. Torres, counsel for CPA, said yesterday that CPA appreciates the court's decision dismissing this case.

"While we have a fundamental disagreement with Star Marianas on its claims which were dismissed, the agency continues to believe that measured efforts at resolution may be more productive," Torres said.

In the meantime, Torres said, the court's ruling addresses the authority that there is no private right of action for an Anti-Head Tax claim by Star Marianas.

In its lawsuit filed last year, Star Marianas sued CPA and five unnamed co-defendants for breach of contract, violation of Anti-Head Tax, and for unreasonable user fees.

Star Marianas, through counsel Timothy H. Bellas, asked the court to hold CPA liable to pay the company damages in an amount to be proven at trial, court costs, and attorney's fees.

Star Marianas entered in 2009 an agreement with CPA, which controls and operates the airports in the CNMI, to lease and use areas of the commuter terminals on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Under the agreement, Star Marianas agreed to adhere to the CPA Airport Rules and Regulations, and to pay a departure facility charge, international arrival facility charge, and in-transit passenger service charge.

In Star Marianas' lawsuit, Bellas argued that the charges calculated on a per-passenger basis violate the AHTA.

Under the AHTA, a state actor "may not levy or collect a tax, fee, head charge, or other charge" on individuals traveling in air commerce.

In CPA's motion to dismiss, Torres asserted that the AHTA does not provide a private right of action and Star Marianas failed to exhaust its administrative remedies, and without a federal claim, the court lacks supplemental jurisdiction over the breach of contract claim.

In Star Marianas' response, Bellas argued that there is a private right of action and there is no requirement to exhaust administrative remedies.

In her decision, Tydingco-Gatewood said the court finds that there is no private right of action under the AHTA and Star Marianas may not maintain its claim.

Tydingco-Gatewood said without a private right of action, the only method through which a plaintiff could eventually seek judicial review is to first lodge a complaint with the Secretary of Transportation and proceed with the administrative enforcement process.

DPS

From Page 1

Rae Shepard yesterday.

Shepard said the files, including Kwon's, were lost when the Internal Affairs Investigation Division moved from Capitol Hill to the DPS main office in Susupe last October.

Shepard said Kwon was cited for DUI as well as other traffic violations in July 2017.

After receiving administrative action, the public information officer said, Kwon was reassigned within DPS.

She said the Internal Affairs Investigation Division is working to gather as much information as possible regarding all missing files.

Shepard said the files regarding Kwon's case have priority.

"Officers are hoping to provide the Attorney General with information regarding the case by the end of the week," she said.

Charity Hodson, counsel for Kwon, disclosed that documents related to DPS internal affairs investigation into the case of Kwon are missing.

Hodson made such disclosure in Kwon's motion to compel the government to disclose all documents within its possession or controlled that he had asked for in preparation for his trial.

Police said Kwon was driving his Nissan car on July 22, 2017, when the vehicle ran off the road on As Gonno Highway and hit a tree, causing serious injuries to his passenger, Deedra Santos.

When the officers responded to the area, Kwon was not at the scene, but Santos was there. Kwon was an off-duty DUI officer at the time of the accident.

REVITALIZING

From Page 1

lands continue to be a challenge because of the lack of transportation. He said his office is only able to charter a vessel every three months to bring in materials and supplies into the islands.

"A reliable and regular transportation is what we are hoping to have and once it is in place, people will have a different perspective up north," he added.

Santos came into office in March last year by succession after the untimely death of former Northern Islands mayor Jerome K. Aldan. Since assuming office Santos said he has never stopped improving the islands.

"Improvements started on the islands of Agrigan and Pagan and we are now working on Alamagan. All these islands need water and that is why we made it a priority because without water, people cannot stay on island," he said.

"We are still in the process of cleaning the water tanks in Alamagan and we are not done yet. It's the dry season now and we don't want to empty the tanks to clean it. We are waiting for the rainy season to finish cleaning, catch rain water and cover it so it's good for use for the residents of the Northern Island," he added.

Other plans include creating livelihood opportunities for the returning residents.

"When the Northern Islands residents return in all of the three islands, the sources of livelihood that can be done are fishing, farming, cattle, and tourism, but only with the right investors," Santos said.

He said Pagan is considered the main island of the Northern Islands as it is accessible both by boat and planes.

"We have the runway but we need to clean and improve it to keep it running. An airplane can bring up cargo and the small boats can transfer cargo to all the other islands," he added.

Santos grew up in Alamagan, left the island for Saipan at 12 years old to attend school and that's why he understands the sentiments of the residents about the education of their children.

"The reason why the people of the Northern Islands is on Saipan is because the children are in school. It's hard for them to stay [because] we don't have schools built. Putting up a school is part of my plan because in order for me to keep the residents to stay, we need to be able to provide education for children," he said.

The mayor said if his office wants to build communities again, it has to be able to provide basic necessities.

"On my next trip, I think the speaker of the House, Rafael Demapan, is planning to go up and visit. I've been actively inviting congressmen and senators to go up north and I hope one of these days they visit the islands so they can see what we need over there," he added.

Santos said that each island has so much to offer that can be economically viable and provide for the other islands in the CNMI.

"Each island has natural resources that can be utilized by all islands. For Agrigan, the residents can do charcoal because that island has a lot of *tangantangan* and we can provide that as the quality of charcoal on Saipan is not the same anymore; and banana farming. On Pagan, we see tourism as it can facilitate activities like diving, hunting, and hiking. On Alamagan, my plan is farming too because the soil is very rich."

With only six months to have plans in place before the next election, Santos, who is running for election, vows to do the best he can for his people.

"If I get elected this coming elections, I will continue to do my best for the people. I do not believe in being a strong leader. I believe in a strong doer of things for the Northern Islands," he said.

"…Growing up and living in an isolated island is different and I like it. You depend on the land and what it has to offer. We don't depend on cars or anything. I want people to have the same experience, one that is full of contentment… belief in going back to what is good," he added.

RAPED

From Page 1

Mayor's Office coordinator and Northern Islands resident, informed Rotarians about the happenings that Northern Islanders have spotted in the so-called "protected sanctuaries."

"Promises were made when they made that monument, when they took it away…I don't know exactly who the monument people are, but there were a lot of promises made that they would keep those islands safe and patrolled and I cant say that we've ever seen that and we really need it," she said.

Tenorio said that not only have Northern Islanders spotted ships, but they have also uncovered large net remnants in the sanctuary waters.

"In the monument areas which is the end of the [Mariana] chain…there are ships passing all the time and we find nets in the water that they just cut off sometimes when their nets are all tangled, they just cut them off …but ships come out there all the time and I know the Coast Guard knows this and they do all they can to help us with that but it is such a big space," she said.

According to Tenorio, Northern Island sanctuaries are constantly being raped and it should be a concern of all those within the Mariana archipelago.

"'I'm not blaming anybody, I'm just saying that it is everybody's job to patrol our islands and to keep them safe because they are being raped as we speak and we are concerned about it…these islands belong to everybody and we all have to be stewards so I would like them to know that they can contact our office," she said.

In addition, Tenorio said that ships from Guam have been making trips to the Northern Islands, too, which is a huge concern because these ships could carry invasive species that could attack the purity of the Northern Islands.

"That's fine, we want to share the islands, but we want to make sure that the boats coming in are free of invasive species. As you know the rhino beetles and many other things that we don't want getting up there…we have a process here that they have to check in with us first. Not just the Northern Islands Mayor's Office, but Division of Fish and Wildlife and all that," she said.

Tenorio said that she would just like to inform Northern Island visitors that they are welcome up there, but they need to check with the Northern Islands Mayor's Office first to ensure that the boats that are coming in are safe.

VISITORS FROM HK

Students from the Chinese University of Hong Kong recently visited Northern Marianas College to learn more about the CNMI's educational system and to also learn about the program and services offered at the college. Dr. Alan Cheung (seated, right) from the University of Hong Kong together with the students present a gift to NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez (seated, left).

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Igisomar wants House to amend weed bill accordingly

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The author of a Senate bill that seeks to legalize marijuana use in the CNMI urges the House of Representatives to review and amend it accordingly after the lower chamber recently questioned the measure's revenue-generating provisions.

Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan), author of Senate Bill 20-62, told *Saipan Tribune* that he requested to Rep. Ivan A. Blanco (R-Saipan), chair of the House Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee, to review and act on the bill based on their judgment.

"I hope they can take the time to review the bill and do what they need to do accordingly. I hope they give it their due diligence considering that [the Senate] has done our part and I hope that they do their part in taking care of the bill and doing what is proper," he said.

The House during a session last week agreed to refer Igisomar's S.B. 20-62 back to committee level after fines and fees imposed along with the establishment of the Cannabis Commission, the regulatory body of the distribution and consumption of the substance.

S.B. 20-62 seeks to legalize the medicinal and recreational use of cannabis while establishing the commission to regulate over the substance.

Igisomar explained that the fees associated with the creation of the commission pertained to the industrialization of the substance once legal and is collected in order to "promulgate rules and regulations" for cannabis licenses.

He added that the fees were to enforce the age limit of 21 for the use of the substance.

In a previous interview, Blanco expressed his intent to just delete the provisions that imposed fines and fees. Igisomar said he was fine with that.

"In the original version of the bill, when we provided those provisions in the Senate, our counsel did not believe that we were imposing on the authority of the House," he said, adding that there was a provision in the bill that also mandates the House to introduce revenue-generating legislations after the substance is legalized.

Igisomar said he continues to wait for the House's move after conferring with their legal counsel.

NMC's Cash for College on Tinian today

Northern Marianas College is reminding interested students and members of the community on Tinian about the free "Cash for College" workshop that will be held today, June 20, 2018, at the NMC Tinian Center. The workshop will be an ongoing session, so participants can stop by anytime between 9am and before the end of the workshop at 1pm.

Participants of the workshop will be provided with personal, step-by-step assistance in completing college financial aid forms, focusing especially on forms for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, the Tinian Municipal Scholarship, and the CNMI Scholarship.

Staff members from the College's Office of Admissions and Records will also be present to provide information and assistance with the NMC application process. In addition, those who participate in the workshop will qualify to have their NMC application fee and placement test fees waived for the upcoming Fall 2018 semester. This waiver represents a savings of up to $75.

Although not required, it is recommended that workshop participants bring a valid form of identification (e.g., a valid U.S. passport, copy of valid application for a U.S. passport, birth certificate, or green card), an official transcript from high school (at least three official copies), Copy of 2016 and 2017 1040, Copy of 2016 and 2017 W-2 (if not filing), and proof of CNMI residency, including proof of continuing residency.

For additional information visit marianas.edu or contact the NMC Financial Aid Office at 237-6791 or email fao@marianas.edu. ***(PR)***

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Supply and Installation of Typhoon Shutters -Rota Courthouse Building

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program are soliciting sealed bids for the supply and installation of typhoon shutters at the Rota Courthouse Building on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available June 20, 2018 at the CIP Program Office, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan. A $25.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. Payment must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt must be presented when obtaining a package. **All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.**

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect and with the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC) §70-30-3-725 Gratuities and Kickbacks and §70.30.3-730 Prohibition Against Contingent Fees. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be a pre-bid conference followed by site visitation on Rota for this project on July 10, 2018, 10:00 a.m. at the Rota Courthouse. Questions concerning this project shall be directed to Leona DLG. Sablan in writing by e-mail: leona.cip@gmail.com, on or before July 13, 2018 to the CIP Program Office, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or fax (670) 664-2408. All responses to inquiries will be shared with all prospective bidders.

Sealed bids must be marked ITB18-GOV-113 Supply and Installation of Typhoon Shutters- Rota Courthouse Building. **For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Building No. 1301, Ascencion Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan no later than 9:00 a.m. ChST, July 20, 2018.** Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 9:00 a.m. ChST, July 20, 2018 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@cnmidof.net. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than July 20, 2018 and the bid documents must be received no later than July 31, 2018. Failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply , Building No. 1301, Ascencion Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan at 10:00 a.m. ChST, August 1, 2018. **However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be open at 10:00 a.m. ChST July 20, 2018.**

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier's check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00.

Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:
a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract. Acceptable assets are only:
1) Cash
2) US Government Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred Twenty (120) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by 120 calendar days, the contract time and will be accessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Virginia C. Villagomez
Special Assistant for Management and Budget

Herman S. Sablan, Director
CNMI Procurement & Supply

IPI sues 13 more customers to collect $12.7M from $19.1 loans

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.coms
REPORTER

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC has filed 13 more lawsuits to collect $12.75 million from their 13 customers who allegedly borrowed a total of $19.1 million from the company.

According to documents filed last week before the Superior Court, the 13 customers made loans ranging from $100,000 to $6.2 million, and that Imperial Pacific wants to collect the amounts due ranging from $59,945 to $3,096,970.

The alleged biggest borrower is Wenlong Cui, a resident of Hong Kong, who allegedly made two loans in the total of $6.2 million and failed to pay $3,096,970.

Catherine J. Cachero, counsel for Imperial Pacific, stated in the complaint that on Oct. 30, 2017, Cui executed a promissory note to borrow $1 million from the company.

Cachero said that on Nov. 8, 2017, Cui requested that the amount under the first loan agreement be increased.

Cachero said Imperial Pacific approved the request for an increase from $1 million to $2 million.

The lawyer said under the first loan agreement, the annual interest rate on each overdue loan is 24 percent per annum.

She said Cui defaulted in payment of the first loan and that the amount due is $800,000.

Cachero said that on Nov. 19, 2017 or during his second trip to Saipan, Cui executed a second promissory note to borrow $2,200,000 from Imperial Pacific.

Cachero said that upon defendant's request, Imperial Pacific approved on Dec. 12, 2017, a change in the loan from $2.2 million to $4.2 million.

The lawyer said Cui defaulted in payment of the second loan agreement and that the amount due and owing to the company is $2,296,970.

The 12 others being sued are all residents of China. They are Chuseng Chen, Yahong Guo, Jingxiong Liang, Yongkuan Liu, Zhiqi Chang, Xiangzhao Kong, Jian Han, Zhong Shi, Kefeng Fan, Chunwei Lin, Minjin Jiang, and Tingquan Chen.

The 12 allegedly borrowed money from the Imperial Pacific from 2016 to 2017.

Chuseng Chen allegedly owes $59,945 out of a $1-million loan; Guo $492,850 of $500,000; Liang $1,748,950 of $3 million; Liu $100,000 of $100,000; Chang $558,088 of $600,000; Kong $2 million out of $2 million; Han $1 million of $1 million; Shi $1,500,000 of $1,500,000; Fan $796,000 of $1 million; Lin $198,600 of $1 million; Jiang $1 million of $1 million; and Tingquan Chen $200,000 of $200,000.

Last month, Imperial Pacific filed a similar lawsuit against Patrick Sun, a Las Vegas-based customer for allegedly failing to pay $747,000 from two loans in the amount of $2.3 million.

CCA survivors, caregivers support meeting today

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the Commonwealth Cancer Association support meeting today, June 20, 2018, starting at 5:30pm at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room. To RSVP or for more information, call the CCA at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-18-011

GUALO RAI WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of Gualo Rai Waterline Replacement in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists, in general installation of a new main waterline and lateral service line; connection to the existing waterline; installation of gate valve assembly, PRV and PSV, flush hydrants, air release valves, fire hydrant assembly; existing lateral service tap relocation; restoration of existing asphalt concrete road; and other related work. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications and without disruption to the daily operation of the water system.

This project is funded by a grant from the United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **365 calendar** days from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **June 21, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-18-011, Gualo Rai Water Line Replacement Project",** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on July 10, 2018,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The bid guarantee may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States, Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidder. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

All bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on June 25, 2018** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Mr. Larry Manacop, CUC Water/Wastewater Associate Engineer – via email larry.manacop@cucgov.org and Ms. Christie Sablan, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant – via email christie.sablan@cucgov.org

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-18-018

ISLAND WIDE WATERLINE REPAIRS, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Island Wide Waterline Repairs, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded by a grant from the United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity work consists of excavation to verify leaks and leak repair on various types of waterlines. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC. The duration of the contract is one year (365 calendar days) from date of award with an option to extend for an additional year if exercised by CUC.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **July 3, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Six (6) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-18-018: Island Wide Waterline Repairs, Saipan"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 19, 2018**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidder. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 5, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr. CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Ms. Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Support Assistant – via email christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

German professor on Saipan for language research

From July 20 to 31, Dr. Thomas Stolz of the University of Bremen in Bremen, Germany will be visiting Saipan to conduct a study on how world languages use the English verb "belong." Stolz is seeking the help of the community and is in need of native speakers of all the Micronesian languages.

The participants for this study must be a native speaker of one of the following languages: Chamorro, Carolinian, Palauan, Chukeese, Korsrae, Pohnpeian, Karibati, Yapese, and Marshalese.

There are two parts to the study and each part will take about an hour.

Part I: The participants will be asked to translate a short story (one page) in English into a native language. The story should be translated using natural language with no need to reproduce the story in English word-by-word.

Part II: The second part is the speaking portion. There will be a questionnaire to be translated from English into a native language. For this segment the speakers will be filmed/recorded, however if the speaker does not want to be recorded and/or filmed, they can choose not to be.

Stolz is interested in the ways and means in which languages express notions of possession (having, owning, possessing, and belonging) in other parts of the world that he believes have not been studied sufficiently. Stolz wants to involve as many languages as possible from outside Europe to rectify the image linguists tend to have of the system of possession in human languages.

To be a participant in this study, contact the Northern Marianas Humanities Council at 235-4785. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Marianas Baptist Academy team members representing the CNMI and their coaches pose for a photo while competing in the 2018 National Junior Academic Challenge Championship in Orlando, Florida.

Team CNMI advances to semis of Academic Challenge

Marianas Baptist Academy team representing the CNMI to the 2018 National Junior Academic Challenge Championship in Orlando, Florida advanced to the semifinals or finished in the Top 6 of the event.

It was really a tough competition among middle school students. Participants in this competition were winners from their own district. It was really a "battle of the brains." One must be a wide reader, equipped with knowledge in all subject areas including Bible, music, computer, and arts. Most challenging questions thrown were in history, geography, literature, math, and science.

Coaches Manuel Castro Jr. and Eleonor Alejo and the five students—Sebastian Dearborn Bernardo, Deancey Adriel Chua, Lyndon Digno, Joanah Victoria Jimenez, and Keith Gester Villasin—considered it a great experience for reaching the semifinals. MBA would like to thank the Public School System for the financial support, MBA principal Pastor Trinidad, and parents and guardians for their help and prayers. ***(PR)***

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COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS
Tel: (670) 234-3751/52/53 • Facebook Address: facebook.com/DPLCNMI • Website: www.dpl.gov.mp

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE EXTENSION OF PUBLIC LAND

In accordance with Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to extend the lease of certain public land in Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

i. The proposed lease of public land is described as Tract No. 21670 containing an area of approximately 2,503 square meters, more or less, situated in Sasanhaya, Rota. A copy of the location of the parcel is available at the Department of Public Lands office and website at www.dpl.gov.mp for inspection.

ii. The prospective lessee is Mobil Oil Mariana Islands, Inc. The Directors of Mobil Oil Mariana Islands Inc. are Charles E. Ewart – President, Kenneth R. Chandler – Executive Vice President, Timothy A. Duguid – Vice President, Ma. Julieta Milan – Treasurer, Leo A. Manlapaz – Secretary, and Margarita A. Olivares.

iii. The proposed Extension Agreement and First Amendment to the Lease Agreement is compliant with DPL regulations. To extent it was negotiated, discussions were by Mr. Charles E. Ewart, Mr. Leo Manlapaz, Ms. Margarita Olivares, and Ms. Maria Kemp.

iv. The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose to operate a bulk plant fuel storage facility.

The term of the proposed lease extension is 15 years.

The proposed annual rental during the term of the lease extension is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value of the property.

v. A copy of the proposed Extension Agreement and First Amendment to the Lease Agreement may be obtained at the office of the Secretary, Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; 1st floor of the De'Ana Commercial Building, Songsong Village, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian. A copy will also be available online at www.dpl.gov.mp

vi. As of the time of this publication, the Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land in Sasanhaya, Rota.

vii. The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before 4:00 p.m. June 26, 2018 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

NUTISIAN I MAPROPONI NA EKSTENSION ATKILON TÅNU´ PUPBLIKU

Sigun gi Seksiona 106 (b) gi Lai Pupbliku 15-2, i Dipåttamentun Tanu´ Pupbliku mannånå´i guini nutisia put i intensiona ni para u ekstendi atkilon nu i metton na tanu´ pupbliku giya Luta, Commonwealth gi Sangkattan na Islas Mariånas. Maseha håyi na pattida ni intirisao gi hålum pupblikun hinerå siña muna´na´hålum upiñon, infotmasion, pat testimoniun kinontra gi tinahguin prinoponi siha para i atkilon nu i tanu´ pupbliku. Kumu mås mo'na mapribeni ginin i Lai Pupbliku 15-2, i tinattitiyi na pettanesin infotmasion manisisita na para u mapupblika.

i. I maproponi na atkilon tanu´ pupbliku madiskribi kumu Tract No. 21670 ni konsisisti kåsi 2,503 square meters, mås pat menus, ni gaigi gi Sasanhaya, giya Luta. I kopian påttin i lugåt managuaha gi ufisinan Dipåttamentun Tanu´ Pupbliku yan website gi www.dpl.gov.mp para inspeksion.

ii. I prospective lessee Mobil Oil Mariana Islands, Inc. I Direktot i Mobil Oil Mariana Islands Inc. si Charles E. Ewart – i Presidenti, Kenneth R. Chandler – i Sigundu Eksakatibu na Presidenti, Timothy A. Duguid – Sigundu na Presidenti, Ma. Julieta Milan – Tresuråru, Leo A. Manlapaz – Sekritåriu/Sekritåria, yan Margarita A. Olivares.

iii. I Kontråtan Ekstension ni maproponi yan i Primet na Amendasion para Kontråtan Atkilon ha tattiyi i regulasion DPL siha. Para ekstendi ni manegosiu, i diskuti siha ginin as Siñot Charles E. Ewart, Siñot Leo Manlapaz, Siñorita Margarita Olivares, yan si Siñorita Maria Kemp.

iv. I lessee debi na u usa i lugåt put atyu ha´ na rason para u ma-operate i fasilidåt pine'lu para i bulk plant fuel.

I tema nu i maproponi na ekstension atkilon para kinsi (15) ånus na tiempu.

I manmaproponi na atkilon gi kada´ såkkan durântin i tema nu i ekstension atkilon ni ma´estima gi pusentu nu i bålin fair market i propiedåt.

v. I kopian nu i maproponi na Kontråtan Ekstension yan i Primet na Amendasion para i Kontråtan Atkilon siña machuli´ gi ufisinan i Sekritårian, Dipåttamentun Tanu´ Pupbliku, gaigi gi sigundu (2nd) bibiendan i Joeten Dandan Commercial Building gi Dandan, giya Saipan, primet (1st) bibienda gi De'Ana Commercial Building, gi Songsong Village, giya Luta; pat i primet (1st) bibienda gi Kings Commercial Building, giya Tinian. I kopia debi lokkui´ na managuaha online gi www.dpl.gov.mp

vi. Kumu gi tiempun nu esti pupblikasion, i Dipåttamentun Tanu´ Pupbliku ti marisibi ni håfa na tinaguin inefresi siha ni para ma´atkila i suhetu na tanu´ pupbliku gi Sasanhaya, giya Luta.

vii. I Sekritårian Dipåttamentun Tanu´ Pupbliku ha aksesepta tinigi´ upiñon, infotmasion, testimoniun kinontra pat alternative proposals ginin i manintirisåo na pattida siha gi pat åntis di 4:00 p.m. gi Huniu 26, 2018 gi ufisinan Dipåttamentun Tanu´ Pupbliku siha ni gaigi giya Saipan, Luta pat Tinian.

ARONGORONG REEL POMMWOL LÁÁLÁÁYIL ATKKILÓÓN REEL FALUWEER TOULAP

Sángi Tálil 106 (b) reel Alléghúl Toulap 15-2, Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap re attotoowow arongorong reel igha re mángemángil rebwe sóbweeyló atkkióónol falúw sángi faluweer toulap wóól Luuta, Commonwealth Téél Falúw kka Efáng llól Marianas. Schóó kka re mwuschel isiisilong kkapas, data, views, ngáre angiingi reel pommw ikka re siiweli ngáli atkkilóónol falúw yeel. Eyoor sángi Alléghúl Toulap 15-2, arongorong ikka e amwirimwiritiw ebwe akkatééwow.

i. Faluweer toulap iye rebwe atkkilaay, e bwáálló bwe Tract No. 21670 e bwáá bwe 2, 503 reel square meters, elapeló ngáre eghus, iye e lo Sasanhaya, Luuta. Pappidil falúw yeel eyoor reel Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap me bwal wóól website me www.dpl.gov.mp ngáre u mwuschel amwuri ghatchúw.

ii. Schóól atkkilóón nge Mobil Oil Mariana Islands, Inc. Ikkaaliir direkktoodil Mobil Oil Mariana Islands Inc, Charles E. Ewart – President, Kenneth R. Chandler – Executive Vice President, Timothy A. Duguid – Vice President, Ma. Julieta Milan —Treasurer, Leo A. Manlapaz – Sekkretóóriyo, me Margarita A. Olivares.

iii. Pommwol Abwungubwungúl Lááláayil me First Amendment ngáli Abwungubwungúl Atkkilóón nge compliant ngáli mwóghutughutútl DPL. Eyoor tool igha re ppwol fengál, mwaliili sángi Mr. Charles E. Ewart, Mr. Leo Manlapaz, Ms. Margarita A. Olivares, me Ms. Maria Kemp.

iv. Schóól atkkilóón ebwe yááyá falúw reel schagh mwóghutughutútl leliyál bulk plant fuel.

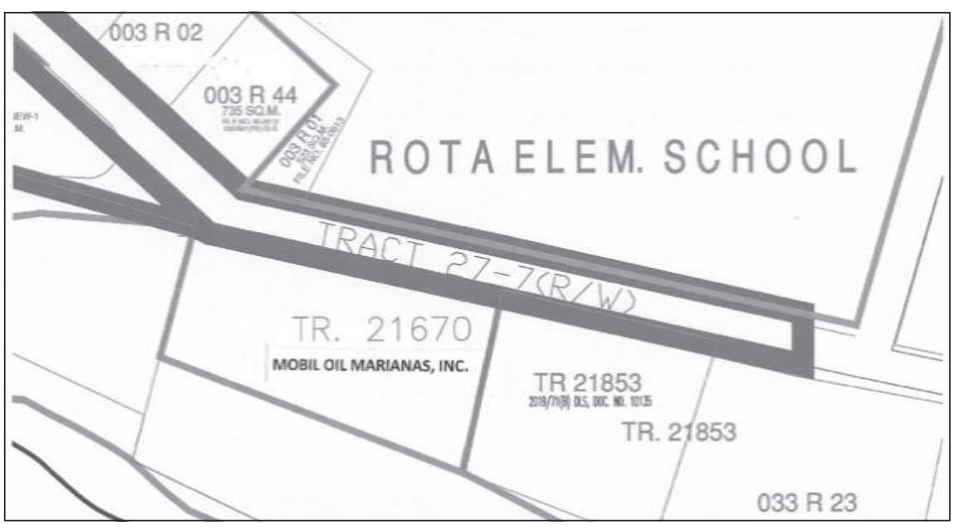
Pommwol mángemángil lappal ráágh reel lááláayil nge seigh me limoow ráágh.

Pommwol óbwóssul ghal atoll aar atkkilaay nge e lo reel percentage reel appraised fair market value reel falúw.

v. Pappidil Abwungubwungúl Extension yeel me First Amendment ngáli Abwungubwungúl Atkkilóón emmwel ubwe bweibwogh me bwulasiyol Sekkretóóriya, Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap, iye e lo 2nd floor reel Joeten Dandan Commercial Building me Dandan, Seipél, 1st floor me De'Ana Commercial Building, Songsong Village, Luuta; ngáre 1st floor reel Kings Commercial Building, Tchiliyól. E bwal yoor pappid yeel online me www.dpl.gov.mp.

vi. Atol oral arongorong yeel, Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap rese bweibwogh pommw iye re siiweli ngáli atkkilóón ngáli falúw iye e lo Sasanhaya, Luuta.

vii. Sekkretóóriyal Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toualp re mmwelil bweibwogh ischil mángemáng, views, angiingi, ngáre pommw ikka re siiweli sángi schóó kka re mwuschel wóól ngáre mmwalil 4:00 p.m. Unnyo 26, 2018 me Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap iye elo Seipél, Luuta, ngáre Tchiliyól.



Childcare Program under DCCA selected for Best Practices Planning

Recognized for its ongoing efforts toward quality child care, the Child Care Licensing Program (CCLP) under the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs (DCCA) has been chosen to receive Individualized Technical Assistance (ITA) from the National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance (ECQA) and the National Association for Regulatory Administration (NARA).

Child Care Licensing Program Supervisor Gordon B. Salas stated that the CNMI Child Care Licensing Program (CCLP) submitted an application with ECQA in conjunction with NARA to address targeted improvements moving forward.

"I am pleased to report that of the five states, territories, and tribes, DCCA-CCLP was selected through the application process to participate in the individualized technical assistance relative to the 2018 Best Practices for Child Care Regulation: Self-Assessment and Planning for Child Care Licensing Systems," Salas said.

Salas added that the technical assistance that will be provided is based in Texas and will be assisting his staff in regards to improving standards to child care licensing.

ECQA Senior Technical Assistance Specialist Michele Adams recently notified the CCLP to participate in phase one of the ECQA Center's Best Practices for Child Care Regulation ITA where the CCLP team will move at their own pace to review the guidance document and complete the assessment of the CNMI regulatory program, outline a plan for follow up on gaps identified through the assessment, and set priorities for improving CNMI regulatory practices.

According to Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Administrator Maribel Loste, the ITA provides very focused and specific technical assistance support such as information, network resources and training.

"This assistance complements our long-term strategy to be aligned with the national standard of high quality child care and the latest best practices. Our CCLP supervisor Mr. Salas is taking the lead on this movement and we are very excited to continue to build our capacity," Loste said.

Secretary of Community and Cultural Affairs Robert H. Hunter stated that child care regulation in the Commonwealth is an ongoing process, with only twelve states having participated in this best practices process so far.

"The National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance brings together what our CCDF and CCLP team have been working on. From the launching of the QRIS in 2016 and increasing training to our local providers, this technical assistance opportunity aligns the CNMI with best practices in the nation. We look forward to this learning process to build upon our current resources and priorities," Hunter said.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres reiterated the importance of building local capacity and that the CCDF and CCLP are essential to assisting families gain access to quality childcare.

"I am very pleased to see that this division is receiving technical training which will help our child care providers improve their skills and give parents a better peace of mind. Creating safe, affordable, and reliable childcare is not an easy task and I commend the CCLP and CCDF for strengthening their program to benefit our entire Commonwealth and the families who are seeking to improve their lives through education or career training. Seeking out existing training and resources will definitely help improve our services to our community and I look forward to the growth of this program, Governor Torres said.

The Early Childhood National Centers for Training and Technical Assistance (T/TA) promotes excellence through high-quality, practical resources and approaches. They are designed to build early childhood program capacity and promote consistent practices across communities, states, Tribes, and territories. These Centers bring together the knowledge and skills from Head Start, child care, and our health partners across the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

NARA is an international non-profit professional association founded in 1976 representing all human care licensing, including adult residential and assisted living, adult day care, child care, child welfare and program licensing for services related to mental illness, developmental disabilities and abuse of drugs or alcohol. ***(PR)***

Tinian beach red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged Unai Dangkulo and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(DEQ)***

NMHC seeking volunteers for language project

Anyone who can speak Chamorro, Carolinian, Palauan, Chukeese, Korsrae, Pohnpeian, Karibati, Yapese, and Marshalese. Please contact the Northern Marianas Humanities Council at 235-4785.

Dr. Thomas Stolz, a professor of University of Bremen in Germany, will be visiting Saipan from July 20 to 31. He would like to conduct interviews with the native speakers. The total volunteer time is only two hours. Visit NMHC's Facebook page 670humanities for details or call NMHC. ***(PR)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 22nd birthday to my beautiful daughter, Teisha Camacho. Seeing you all grown up, I realize how time flies. I am so proud to call you my daughter and I love you more than words can express. May more birthday wishes come for you and love you always. Greetings from Mom.

OIA's Domenech visits Palau President Remengesau

PALAU—Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular and International Affairs Doug Domenech joined by U.S. Ambassador to Palau Amy Hyatt, and Office of Insular Affairs Director Nik Pula recently met with Palau President Tommy E. Remengesau, launching his official visit to Palau. During their meeting the Assistant Secretary signed over a technical assistance grant for $323,333, an amount requested by the Government of Palau to upgrade record-

» Delivers funds to upgrade Ministry of Finance from microfiche to digital record keeping

keeping and management systems for treasury, customs, personnel, and budget operations in the Palau Government.

"Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke and I are pleased to provide Palau with this technical assistance grant towards improvement of finance operations for the Government of Palau," said Assistant Secretary Domenech. It is long overdue to facilitate Palau's move from antiquated microfiche records to digital record-keeping and archiving."

"President Tommy E. Remengesau and I are grateful for this technical assistance grant from the U.S. Government, which is sure to significantly improve the national

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, U.S. Ambassador to Palau Amy Hyatt, Interior Assistant Secretary Doug Domenech, Palau President Tommy E. Remengesau, OIA Director Nikolao Pula, and Palau Finance Minister Elbuchel Sadang.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Assistant Secretary Doug Domenech, Palau President Tommy E. Remengesau, U.S. Ambassador to Palau Amy Hyatt, and Palau Finance Minister Elbuchel Sadang.

government's recordkeeping system," said Palau Finance Minister Elbuchel Sadang. "This project will not only help our government in addressing its digitization and public accessibility needs, but the system upgrade will also certainly improve the Ministry of Finance's document reproduction quality. Additionally, it will allow new features of digital media, including indexing, that will allow more efficient retrieval and search capabilities," Minister Sadang continued.

Funding will be used to procure a new document archiving system with new hardware and software, and an option to outsource archiving of historical data. System acquisition, including on-site installation and training, is expected to take six months and full-system utilization is anticipated next year. Funding was provided through the Office of Insular Affairs' Technical Assistance Program.

The Assistant Secretary, Insular and International Affairs, and the Office of Insular Affairs carry out the Secretary of the Interior's responsibilities for the U.S. territories of Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Additionally, OIA administers and oversees Federal assistance under the Compacts of Free Association to the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. OIA supports the Secretary's mission of Fulfilling Trust and Insular Responsibilities through balancing efforts and limited resources towards stronger economic and health capacities, and fiscal accountability in the U.S. insular areas. ***(PR)***

June 11- July 20

Except holidays

The Summer Food Service Program, sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and administered by the Public School System, will provide FREE LUNCHES to children and teens at multiple public school locations on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

-No registration required
-Each child must take his/her own lunch
-One lunch per child per day

Saipan Locations:
Garapan Elementary School
Oleai Elementary School
Kagman Elementary School
WSR Elementary School
Koblerville Elementary School

Tinian Location
Tinian Elementary School

Rota Location
Sinapalo Elementary

LOOK FOR THE SUMMER MEALS BANNER

SUMMER FOOD SERVICE

Free LUNCHES for children 18 years old and younger

SERVED HERE
11:30am-12:00pm

Call 664-3901 or 664-3902 for details

Summer Food Service Program USDA

IN CELEBRATION OF
Men's Health Week
WITH THIS YEAR'S THEME
Men & Families: Making Healthy Connections
THE MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH BUREAU PRESENT

Health Screening Outreach
Thursday, June 21, 2018
DPW Parking Lot – Next FHB Oleai
9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Services:
- Blood Pressure Check
- Blood Sugar Check
- Family Planning Services
- Medicaid Application Assistance

ALL SERVICES AT LOW OR NO COST!

Should you have any question or for more information, please contact the Maternal & Child Health Bureau at 664-8701 or visit any of our social media outlets below.

Maternal & Child Health Bureau - CNMI MCHB_CNMI

Brought to you by the Commonwealth Healthcare Comprehensive Cancer Control Program under the Division of Public Health Non Communicable Disease through 100% federal funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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EDITORIAL

'Deaths of despair': An American epidemic

"Deaths of despair" sound like something that would be found in miserable, wretched places — refugee camps, war-torn cities, famine-wracked villages in poverty-stricken countries. In fact, the term has emerged to describe a crisis in one of the most advanced societies on the planet — ours.

The United States is in the grip of two lethal epidemics: suicides and drug overdoses. The deaths of designer Kate Spade and TV personality Anthony Bourdain alerted Americans to the rising number of people taking their own lives. Suicides have risen by 30 percent since 1999 — amounting to nearly 45,000 in 2016.

Fatal drug overdoses also have soared. In 1999, they claimed some 17,000 lives; in 2016, the number exceeded 64,000. The biggest increase involves opioids, including prescription painkillers, heroin and the powerful synthetic compound fentanyl.

These are staggering figures. On a typical day in this country, some 175 people die of drug overdoses and 123 by their own hand. That's one "death by despair" every five minutes. And much of this is happening without provoking an urgent public response.

If hundreds of our fellow citizens were dying every day from terrorist attacks or Ebola, the reaction would be far different. The reason for the relative silence is that we have no simple, quick ways to combat these scourges. They kill one person at a time, often out of sight of anyone but those closest to them.

But a lack of ready solutions is no excuse for inattention or inaction. Drunk driving was once seen as a fact of life, but growing public awareness and assorted policy changes have drastically reduced the number of traffic deaths involving alcohol-impaired drivers.

What can be done about suicides? Wider knowledge of risk factors and greater access to mental health treatment would ensure help to those who feel life has nothing to offer. Better practices for storing guns, by voluntary decision or legal mandate, would keep the most common method out of some hands.

The overdose problem has been addressed by efforts to reduce the number of prescriptions written for opioid painkillers, which declined by 10 percent last year alone. The Affordable Care Act, for all its flaws, gave millions of people access to drug treatment. In April, U.S. Surgeon General Jerome Adams issued a rare advisory, urging Americans to get and carry naloxone, which reverses opioid overdoses, in case they encounter someone in urgent need.

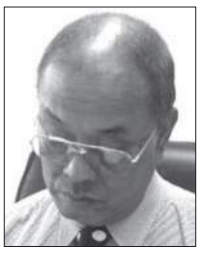
New York Mayor Bill de Blasio has proposed opening "supervised injection centers" where drug users can shoot up in clean facilities staffed with medical personnel. The U.S. Department of Justice, however, regards this approach as flouting the law.

The fact that no one has any magic cure for either epidemic shouldn't stop us from searching more aggressively for multiple partial cures. Both epidemics demand far more attention from policymakers, and they are starting to get it. Last year,

See DEATHS on Next Page

Hafa Ekonomia?

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

Sige maguaife abubun niha na homlu ekonomia mina` libianu apas obligasion yan dibi siha guine. Gai meritu ayu na infotmasion.

Lau gi ti mapot na manera debi ta pula` haf` sustansiaña kinalamten ekonomia gi linala` i tautau-ta siha.

Na ti pot fuetsan familia mamahan nesessidatña?

Malag manu i adelantu na taigue gi suetdun i empleau siha? Kau pot esta in` hatsa suetdun miyu 80 pot sientu na in` ipus nesessidat niha?

Finu` amiguhu Magoo, "Puru ha` 'kanamee, de `kanamee, de `kanamee' ya hafa para me?" Hu sañgane na una` mesñgongue` puede suette gi biradan i batku ginen isla. Durun chaleg ham dispues.

$400,000? Todu empleau, piot i mas man-baratu suetdun niha, animu ma-apase tax pot no u fan mapenalisa.

Animu man-macho`chu` lau hasan ma-upus obligasion apas tax. Makat na mattiru gi halum chatsaga na ekonomia `nai sessu tinahuñg salape` familia para nesessidat.

Mientras tantus, haf` na ni unu gi manma-elihe desde as Raffy T., Raffy D., yan Arnie P., fumaisen si Biktot Hokog na unana`lu i $400,000 na salape` taxpayers? Na ti man-manhula` hamyu para in`tatiye lai i tanu`?

Kinententun: Guaha `nai mafaisenyu` ni manginen hiyuñg haf` na taya` animuta umayudan maisa hit tat kumu bisnis familia yan otru pinetsige para ta adelanta fuetsan moneda-ta?

I kuestion lamayot patte insuttu pot rason na i oppan na sensian kinententu ahe` ti pot mangagu` i natibu. Gaige na kontentu i natibu gi hagas establisau na kutturaña.

Taya ni unu ta estototba yan displanta pot ambenteria. Mañgetu hit gi lugat-ta sa` kabales nesessidat familia ginen i tanu` yan tasi. Lache i para umana setbe midision pinayun niha giya hita.

I kutturan gineftau gi inana`en haf` suette-ta patte petmanente gi natibu este na kustumbre. Ti tafan abende kinisechan gualu` pat kineni` guihan gi tasi. Man-ana`e hit sa` estague` kustumbreta ni tautau tanu`.

Ayu na taya` kutturan bisnis gi halum hita ginen este na tradision. Mas metgot i sensian yine`ase` ke para tafan mama` kepble gi prohimu-ta. Kustumbren tautau tanu`. Geftau i natibu, un` kustumbre ni muna` sattun i respetu yan homlu na relasion gi halum komunidat-ta. I otru rasan tautau ti makomprende este na patte gi kutturata kumu tautau isla.

Dispues, ni unu tana` chatsaga pot sensian gulosu. Man-nahuñg hit gi nina`en dikiki` na tano`ta yan tasi gi oriyan este siha na petlas.

■■■

Bisnis: Ilegña i amiguhu Magoo na malagu`gue` umestablese bisnesña na maisa. Hu faisen haf` sessu gaige gi hinassoña. Ilegña na man-benden guihan. Buenu!

Adumididi`, sige in` atan haf` nesessidat ayu na bisnis. Debi u guaha peskadot kontodu disision kau peskan pachiñko yan fisga gi halum rubentason, li`uf gi taduñg, tekin, tupag, chenchulu pat talaya.

Hu faisen pot peskadot: haye para una` fan peska. Ilegña na para u fañgone` ginen Filipinas. I primet na ineppeña dineskareta i planu. Hu faisen kau guaha `nai pumeska. Ni un` biahe ya este na bisnis malago`ña?

Ha bira guatu gi para manbenden tuban mames. Hu atan i troñkun niyog gi oriyan lugatña ni kanaha` man-mafatu gi lañget. Hu tanchu` ya hu faisen kau lekaugue` para u feddus siete na niyog kada dia? Ha yeñgyuñg iluña. Mabira i pahinan planu.

Hu esplikaye dispues na mauleg pinetsigen bisnis gi manesessita na setbisiu gi offisiu ni fafayiña. Ti umafagcha` i konbetsasion mame. Dispues, para u felis i bisnis dañkulun sakrifisiu, diariu.

Manyo-amte: Gi hinibenhu guaha `nai hu chage makoni` para un` yo-amte. Sige mona ta huñgug haye siha man-a`amte desde appling, mana` malañgu, chenot famaguon, yan otru siha pinadese.

Gi halum man-a-amte guaha gai fuetsa mas ke otdinariu. Los dimas, malimitte gi usun tinanum yan hafkau siha na otden ginen suruhanu. Un` lalasa magahet na sumen metgot.

Puntan kalulotña i amku` `nai ha pacha koyenturan dedegoghu. Puti lau sumiña mamokat-yu` para i kareta. I finatoghu mau-uma halum sa` ti siña hu gacha` i edda`.

I otru a`amte tuñgu`un na mana`e fuetsa lokue` sa` sin kuestion ha sañgane i iridau manu `nai mafuegu estomaguña. Era, lemlem tautau gi kantun tasi. Man-estotba i prohimu `nai manmattu i manmofo`na para u lipa siha.

I famalao`an na man-yo-amte lamayot patte para famaguon. Man-pasensia piot gi para umana` gimen i patgon amot.

Kandet: Ni kuantu probleman uttimun ha`ane, gaige gi hinasoghu i ma`lag na esperansa gigon anog i primet na ininan kalulot atdau `an manana Si Yuus.

Hu rikohe yan ta`lun kumasa ha`anihu gi finattun nuebu na chagchag oga`an. I nuebu na ha`ane sumede hit ruminueba ha`anita. Guaha kampu para ta petsige sin ditension todu planuta.

Hu appelayu` gi Saina kumu luseru. Ha pipetyu` gi halum kañada. Hu faisen lokue` si Santa Maria bendisioña kumu nanan pinasensia. Pot mantautau hit na ta nesessita bumisita i uniku na-nana`e—Sainata!

A bill to deal with DACA would halve legal immigration

By ALEX NOWRASTEH
Los Angeles Times

Alex Nowrasteh is the senior immigration policy analyst at the Cato Institute and a native of Los Angeles.

Ever since President Donald Trump set in motion the gradual termination of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, which gave work permits to young immigrants brought here illegally when they were children, Congress has been stalled on solving the situation of these 700,000 so-called Dreamers.

After much Republican intraparty wrangling, Speaker Paul D. Ryan agreed to bring two bills to the floor of the House of Representatives.

He released a draft of one of those bills Thursday. The other has been kicking around Washington for a while: the Securing America's Future Act. The White House supported an earlier version of it, stating that it "would accomplish the president's core priorities for the American people." The problem is that even if the SAF Act doesn't pass — and let's hope it doesn't — its draconian cuts to immigration will be the Republican starting point for all future negotiations.

The primary outrage is this: SAF won't give Dreamers green cards. Instead it grants renewable residency permits — with no pathway to citizenship — to some DACA recipients. Worse, the restrictions are so onerous that few Dreamers could ever spend a year as a stay-at-home mother, risk starting a small business or even become a priest. That's because this bill would make it a crime for anyone holding a SAF permit to have an income below 125 percent of poverty level.

The House sponsors of the SAF Act claim it will cut only about a quarter of all green cards, but they are significantly understating its effect.

SAF cuts the number of legal immigrants by about 40 percent initially, and that number could reach 50 percent over 10 years. It cancels the diversity green card lottery, eliminates all family-sponsored immigration categories except for the most immediate relatives of U.S. citizens, and cuts to the bone the number of asylum seekers who will be admitted.

The SAF Act also purports to increase the number of highly skilled immigrants allowed into the U.S., and allocates 55,000 additional green cards toward that. But of adults who immigrated on a family or diversity visa in 2015, 47 percent had a college degree. The impact of any cuts to those programs will far outweigh the added employment visas.

This bill also poses major trouble for the families of legal immigrants. Under SAF, legal immigrants who already have a green card would be mostly unable to bring their foreign-born spouses or children to the U.S. Additionally, immigrants who have waited for decades for a type of green card that would be eliminated by the SAF bill would suddenly have their applications canceled and their fees confiscated.

So much for respecting immigrants who played by the rules.

Republicans have for years claimed that they oppose only illegal immigration, and President Trump, as a candidate said he wanted immigrants "to come in, but they've got to come in like you: legally." The SAF's sponsors are clearly not on the same page.

It's misleading to even call the SAF Act an immigration bill. As a matter of rhetoric, it's an anti-immigration piece of legislation. If a Democratic politician sponsored a bill to cut legal gun ownership by 40 percent, Republicans would rightly call it an anti-gun bill. The same rules ought to apply here.

In addition, even though the number of illegal border crossings is at a 46-year low, the bill would spend about $124 billion over the next five years on border security. That's about seven times what it cost to fund the Border Patrol for the five years from 2012 to 2017.

Congress hasn't considered an immigration bill this bad since the 1920s, when it passed the Emergency Quota Act in 1921 and the National Origins Act in 1924. Those laws ended most immigration from Europe, slashing it by about 75 percent. The Great Depression followed soon after, leading to further tightening of immigration laws.

Those shameful bills ended the United States' traditional role as a refuge for the oppressed peoples of the world just as communism, fascism and Nazism began to rise in Europe. And their effect endured. It wasn't until this century that the number of new green cards issued annually consistently matched the decade before World War I — about 1 million a year.

Even if that sorry history doesn't repeat itself, the SAF Act is still the worst immigration bill introduced in almost a century. Republican hardliners say it's a compromise — helping out Dreamers in return for more border security. It's not. It's a strategy for deporting Dreamers over a longer period of time while cutting legal immigration in half, canceling the applications of those who have patiently waited for a green card, and wasting $124 billion.

Leaving dogs in hot cars isn't just cruel, it's criminal

By LINDSAY POLLARD-POST
People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals

Lindsay Pollard-Post is a senior writer for the PETA Foundation, 501 Front St., Norfolk, VA 23510; www.PETA.org.

For years, PETA has been spreading a simple, yet vital message: Hot cars kill. It's now well known that leaving dogs in vehicles on a warm day is as cruel and deadly as putting them in a hot oven. No one can claim ignorance.

Yet already this year, there have been at least 15 heat-related animal deaths — and these are just the ones that have been reported. Most aren't.

Whether done out of malice or negligence, leaving animals to bake to death in a vehicle is inexcusable — and anyone who does so could face felony cruelty charges.

Last month, a man was charged with cruelty to animals after reportedly leaving a dog in a car outside a medical facility in Georgia. "(The dog) was crying really hard and I knew that (he) needed help," one witness said. "(He) was trying to climb out of the vehicle. (He) had clearly been in there for a long time." When a police officer arrived and opened the door, the dog reportedly fell to the pavement. He later died, despite efforts to save him.

A Staten Island man who claimed that he was drunk when he left his two dogs in a sweltering vehicle last month was charged with aggravated cruelty to an animal, animal neglect and leaving an animal in a vehicle in an extreme temperature. Police freed the dogs and tried to resuscitate them on the sidewalk — pouring water on them and administering oxygen — but one was so damaged from the heat that he had to be euthanized.

And a Nebraska woman was recently sentenced to a year in prison and banned from owning dogs for 30 years for allegedly leaving two animals to die in a hot car in 2016.

It's heartening that these cases are being taken seriously, but a year behind bars is a day at the beach compared to what dogs endure when they're left in blazing-hot vehicles. According to one veterinarian, "When you do an autopsy on a dog (who) died this way, the organs are soupy."

Panting is dogs' primary means of cooling themselves, but it's ineffective when the air around them is as hot as a sauna. As their body temperature — and panic level — rises, many frantically attempt to chew or claw their way out, but it's no use. Soon, their liver, kidneys and brain begin to shut down. They lose control of their bowels, vomit, suffer heart attacks and collapse. It's a terrifying, painful way to die.

Some people make the deadly mistake of thinking that their dog will be fine in a parked car for "just a minute." But it only takes minutes for a parked car to turn into a deathtrap. When it's 75 degrees outside, the temperature inside a parked car can soar to 104 degrees in 20 minutes. On a 90-degree day, it can reach 119 degrees in the same amount of time.

Parking in the shade, leaving the windows partially open and/or leaving a bowl of water for your dog do not keep vehicles cool enough to be safe. Leaving the air conditioner on isn't a failsafe, either. Dogs have died after A/C units malfunctioned or they bumped a button, turning off the system.

If you see an animal left in a hot car, call local humane authorities or 911 immediately. If authorities are unresponsive or too slow to react and the animal's life appears to be in imminent danger, find a witness who will back up your assessment and then carefully remove the animal from the vehicle. Get the dog into the shade immediately, reduce the body temperature with lukewarm water and ensure that he or she is rushed to a veterinarian.

And please, if you're driving with your dog this summer and suddenly remember that you need to stop at the bank or grab something from the grocery store, drop off your animal companion at home first, where it's cool and safe. No errand is worth risking your best friend's life — or landing yourself behind bars.

DEATHS

From Page 10

a presidential commission chaired by former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie offered more than 50 proposals on how to combat opioid abuse.

House Speaker Paul Ryan is touting a raft of bills that he said would not only "stem the flow of opioids into our country" but "change the way opioids are prescribed and encourage non-opioid treatments." A House subcommittee has approved a bill to establish a new three-digit dialing code (a la 911), for "a national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system."

What is it about life in modern America that drives so many into self-destruction? There are many possible explanations: economic dislocation, bleak job prospects, family breakdown, social isolation, the decline of religion and other sources of meaning. It won't do to treat symptoms and ignore causes.

But neither will it do to put off immediate steps until we understand everything. A tragedy is raging every day. It demands our action.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

In Memoriam: Gov. Pedro Pangelinan Tenorio

As residents of the Commonwealth, we are all deeply saddened by the passing of a revered and illustrious leader and son of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, governor Pedro Pangelinan Tenorio. We are privileged to be present at this moment in our history to pay our respect and honor to the memories of governor Tenorio and to extend our appreciation and gratitude to Sophie, her children and their families for the services and sacrifices of governor Tenorio in bringing the many benefits to improve the general well being of the people of our islands.

During his lifetime, governor Tenorio served our people in various public service capacities, 1st as a member of the Congress of Micronesia House of Representatives during the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands administration in the early 1970s, later serving the first CNMI Legislature as a senator representing Saipan and as Senate vice president from 1978 to 1980, and as Senate president for the 2nd CNMI Legislature from 1980 to 1982. In 1982 governor Tenorio was sworn in as the second chief executive for the CNMI, and re-elected governor in 1985, and in 1997 was elected for a third term as governor of the Commonwealth. During his tenure as our governor, he brought in to the Commonwealth millions of dollars of financial assistance from the federal government for health care services, education, infrastructure funds for the development of our islands, welfare assistance for our underprivileged citizens, food stamps, and other meaningful assistance and services. Governor Tenorio spear-headed the efforts to develop private sector economy by promoting the tourism and garment manufacturing industries in the Commonwealth.

Socrates, the great Greek philosopher, advised us that the true measure of the greatness of a person lies in his character. I had been privileged for more than 60 years to bear witness to the character of governor Tenorio. He was a man of impeccable integrity, friendly, respectful, humble, witty, brilliant with a photographic memory, caring, and, above all, loyal to families, friends, and the people of the Commonwealth. He loved Sophie, his children and families, friends and our people. And, as our dedicated and devoted public servant, he served us well with the full measure of his life.

We will miss and lovingly remember you governor Tenorio in the hearts of your people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

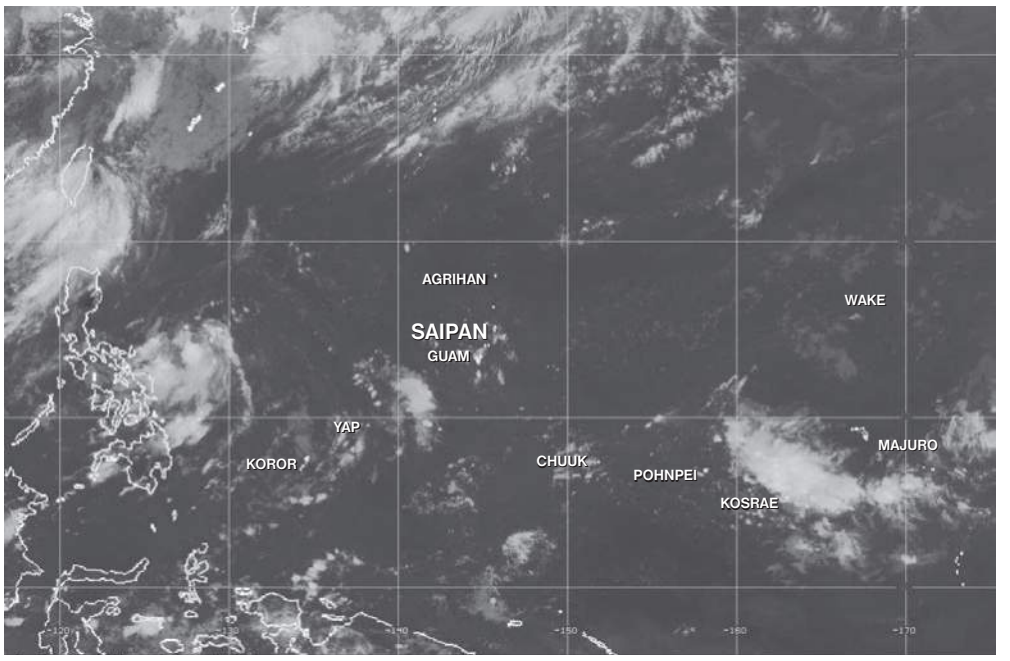
Edward DLG. Pangelinan
Marianas Political Status Commission chairman and first CNMI Washington representative

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:08 AM, TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

There is a weak trough that is bringing isolated showers and thunderstorms across the Marianas. These showers should continue through the morning before dissipating by afternoon. After that expect a fairly dry week with dry air in the mid levels. Several weak troughs will move through over the course of the week and could trigger some isolated showers.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	87° / 80°
Palau	Thunderstorm	83° / 77°
Yap	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	85° / 78°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	85° / 76°
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	85° / 76°
Majuro	Thunderstorm	84° / 79°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Showers	55° / 45°
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	95° / 70°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	90° / 82°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	88° / 75°
London	Cloudy	87° / 75°
Los Angeles	Sunny	81° / 64°
Manila	Thunderstorm	84° / 77°
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	61° / 39°
Miami	Showers	85° / 78°
New York	Mostly Cloudy	81° / 69°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	81° / 68°
Paris	Mostly Sunny	82° / 61°
Busan	Rain	75° / 66°
Rome	Thunderstorm	88° / 66°
Salem	Partly Cloudy	94° / 74°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	60° / 53°
Seoul	Sunny	86° / 64°
Tokyo	Showers	79° / 68°
Washington, DC	Thunderstorm	87° / 72°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
1:30 AM	HIGH TIDE	2.01
7:45 AM	LOW TIDE	0.90
12:29 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.51
7:19 PM	LOW TIDE	0.16

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:47 AM	6:49 PM
Thursday	5:47 AM	6:49 PM
Friday	5:48 AM	6:49 PM
Saturday	5:48 AM	6:49 PM
Sunday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	12:02 AM	-	-
Thursday	-	12:36 AM	12:56 PM
Friday	-	1:18 AM	1:48 PM
Saturday	-	1:59 AM	2:39 PM
Sunday	-	2:40 AM	3:30 PM

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 6, 2018

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	8:45am	9:30am	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA117	7:00am	7:45am	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

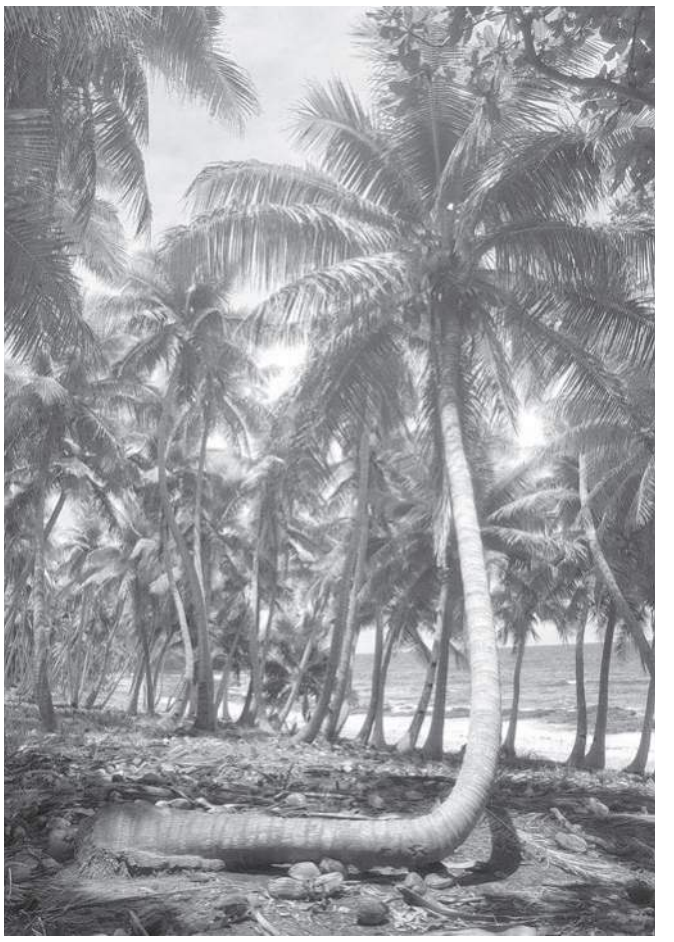
Trip to the Northern Islands

PHOTOS By BEA CABRERA

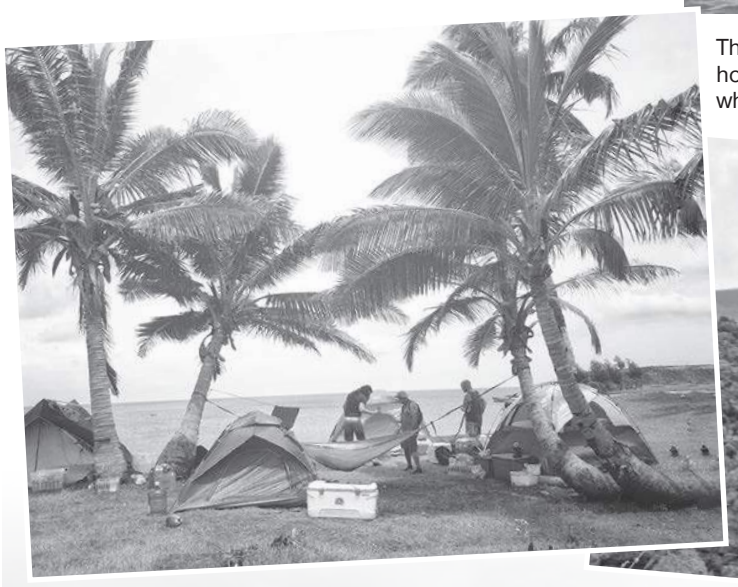
Smoked meat are carefully prepared by the people who live in Pagan. These are put into bags to give out to relatives living on Alamagan and Saipan.

A walkway of trees that leads to the south side of Pagan Island.

The cleared area in the middle is where people established their homes on Alamagan Island. There are currently seven people who live on the island.



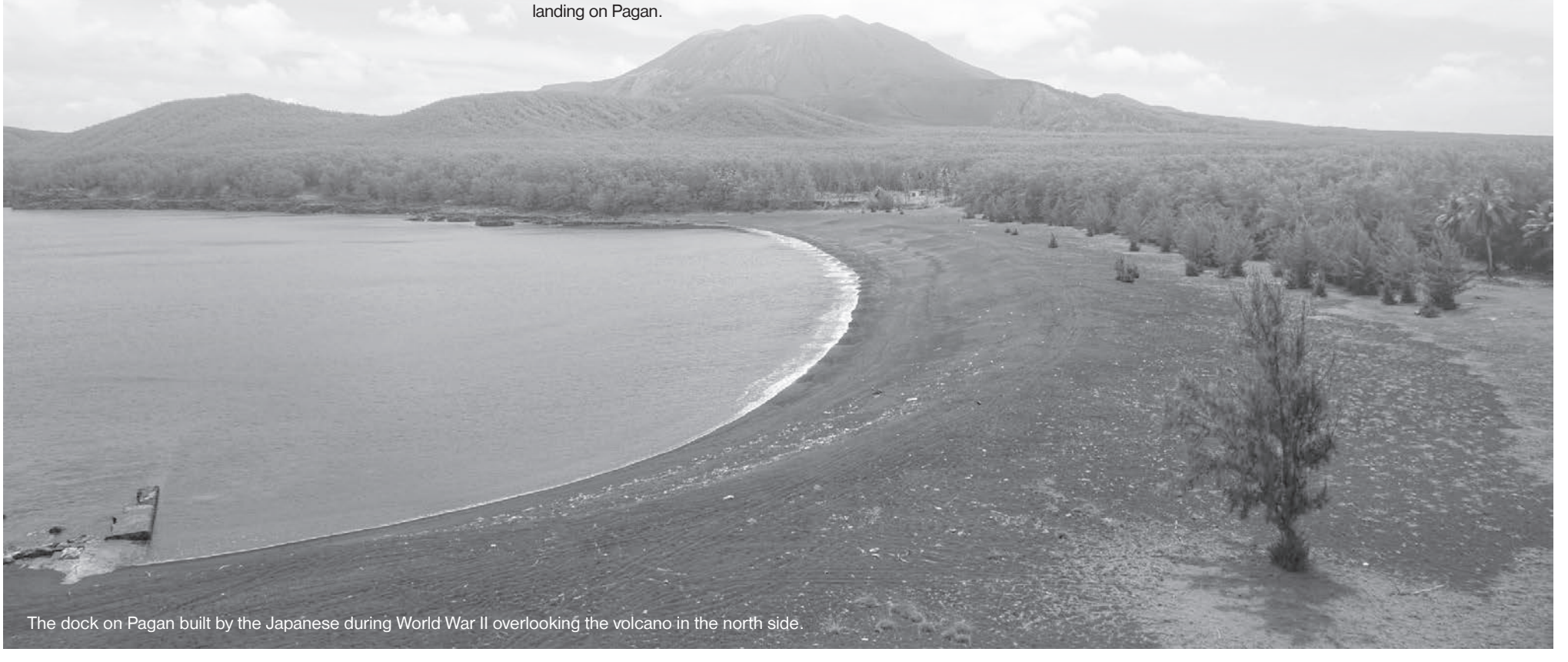
Miles and miles of coconut trees surround the island of Pagan that makes it a good source of copra for the CNMI.



There are no accommodations on Pagan so visitors are asked to camp out to experience the island organically.

Hardened lava found around the north volcano of Pagan. It also blocks a portion of the runway that is why planes have a hard time landing on Pagan.

Pagan is made up of volcanic rocks just like all the islands in Micronesia but rock formations in Pagan are unique and majestic.



The dock on Pagan built by the Japanese during World War II overlooking the volcano in the north side.

Business

In tit-for-tat, Trump threatens more tariffs against China

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump directed the U.S. Trade Representative to prepare new tariffs on $200 billion in Chinese imports on Monday as the two nations moved closer to a potential trade war.

The tariffs, which Trump wants set at a 10 percent rate, would be the latest round of punitive measures in an escalating dispute over the large trade imbalance between the two countries. Trump recently ordered tariffs on $50 billion in Chinese goods in retaliation for intellectual property theft. The tariffs were quickly matched by China on U.S. exports, a move that drew the president's ire.

"China apparently has no intention of changing its unfair practices related to the acquisition of American intellectual property and technology," Trump said in a statement Monday announcing the new action. "Rather than altering those practices, it is now threatening United States companies, workers, and farmers who have done nothing wrong."

Trump added: "These tariffs will go into effect if China refuses to change its practices, and also if it insists on going forward with the new tariffs that it has recently announced."

AP

President Donald Trump speaks during a meeting of the National Space Council in the East Room of the White House, Monday, June 18, 2018, in Washington, as Vice President Mike Pence looks on.

China's Commerce Ministry on Tuesday criticized the latest threat of tariffs, saying it was an "act of extreme pressure and blackmail that deviates from the consensus reached by both parties after many negotiations, and is a disappointment to the international community."

"If the U.S. becomes irrational and issues this list, China will have no choice but to adopt strong countermeasures of the same amount and quality," the ministry statement said.

Trump said that if China responds to this fresh round of tariffs, then he will move to counter "by pursuing additional tariffs on another $200 billion of goods."

It wasn't immediately clear when the new tariffs could be put in place, as the trade office has yet to identify the Chinese goods to be penalized or conduct a legal review. The first round of penalties announced by both nations is set to take effect July 6.

The intellectual property sanctions were the latest in a spate of protectionist measures unveiled by Trump in recent months that included tariffs on steel and aluminum imports to the U.S. and a tough rhetoric on trade negotiations from North America to Asia.

The escalation in the dispute with China may also serve as a warning to other trading partners with whom Trump has been feuding, including Canada and the European Union.

The move quickly drew praise from former Trump senior adviser Steve Bannon, who told The Associated Press: "President Trump told China and the world tonight that America will not back down when it comes to economic aggression."

But Wall Street has viewed the escalating trade tensions with wariness, fearful they could strangle the economic growth achieved during Trump's watch. Gary Cohn, Trump's former top economic adviser, said last week that a "tariff battle" could result in price inflation and consumer debt — "historic ingredients for an economic slowdown."

Trump's comments came hours after the top U.S. diplomat accused China of engaging in "predatory economics 101" and an "unprecedented level of larceny" of intellectual property.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo made the remarks at the Detroit Economic Club as global markets reacted to trade tensions between the U.S. and China.

He said China's recent claims of "openness and globalization" are "a joke." He added that China is a "predatory economic government" that is "long overdue in being tackled," matters that include IP theft and Chinese steel and aluminum flooding the U.S. market.

"Everyone knows ... China is the main perpetrator," he said. "It's an unprecedented level of larceny."

"Just ask yourself: Would China have allowed America to do to it what China has done to America?" he said later. "This is predatory economics 101."

The Chinese Embassy in Washington did not respond to a request for comment.

Pompeo raised the trade issue directly with China last week, when he met in Beijing with President Xi Jinping and others.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Glass company: People drink less beer, more of it in cans

ATLANTA (AP)—An Ohio-based glass company says it's closing a Georgia bottle factory—and part of the reason is that people are drinking less beer, and buying more of it in cans. The Atlanta factory will close around July 18, putting 270 people out of work, Owens-Illinois Inc . spokeswoman Janet Galecki told the Atlanta Journal-Constitution . Most are hourly employees. In addition to the declining beer and beer bottle markets, the plant needed work, she said. The Perrysburg, Ohio, company will close the plant "in a respectful manner," she wrote in an email. "Employees will be eligible for appropriate separation benefits." The plant's customers are mainly mainstream domestic beer companies and will get bottles from other Owens-Illinois plants, she wrote. After closing the plant, Owens-Illinois bottles and customer demand "will be roughly balanced," the statement said.

IBM pits computer against human debaters

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—IBM is testing a computer against two human debaters in the first public demonstration of artificial intelligence technology it's been working on for more than five years. The company unveiled its Project Debater in San Francisco on Monday. The argumentative computer system is embodied in a 5-foot-tall (1.5 meter) machine shaped like a monolith. Asked to debate in favor of government-subsidized space exploration—a topic it hadn't studied—the computer quickly delivered an opening argument, pulling in evidence collected from its repository of newspaper articles and journals. It then listened to a human's counter-argument and gave a 4-minute rebuttal. An IBM research team based in Israel began working on the project not long after IBM's Watson computer beat two human quizmasters on a "Jeopardy" challenge in 2011.

Derailed train bursts into flames in southwestern Indiana

PRINCETON, Ind. (AP)—A freight train derailed in southwestern Indiana and several train cars caught fire, forcing the evacuation of nearby homes while authorities monitored air quality Monday, officials said. The train derailed Sunday evening near a trailer park in Princeton, about 150 miles (240 kilometers) southwest of Indianapolis, the Gibson County Sheriff's Office said in a statement. No one was injured in the derailment, Indiana State Police spokesman Sgt. Curt Durnil said at a news conference Monday. Twenty-three freight train cars left the tracks. Rail operator CSX said in a statement that the cause was under investigation. The evacuation was lifted and roads that had been closed, including U.S. 41, were reopened Monday afternoon, the sheriff's office said. Several people called 911 to report the derailment and an explosion.

China blasts new US tariff threat as 'blackmail'

BEIJING (AP)—China's government on Tuesday denounced President Donald Trump's threat of new tariffs on $200 billion of Chinese goods as blackmail and warned it would respond with "strong countermeasures."

Trump ordered the U.S. Trade Representative on Monday to prepare new tariffs on Chinese goods, escalating a dispute over Beijing's technology policy that companies and investors worry could drag down global trade and economic growth.

The Commerce Ministry warned said Beijing is ready to "defend the interests of the Chinese people and enterprises" but gave no details.

"This practice of extreme pressure and blackmail deviates from the consensus reached by two parties through many negotiations, and it also disappointed the international community," said the forcefully worded statement.

"If the U.S. side becomes irrational and issues the list, China will have to adopt measures that are comprehensive measures in quantity and quality in order to make strong countermeasures."

On Saturday, Beijing announced it was imposing 25 percent tariffs on $34 billion of U.S. imports including soybeans and beef effective July 6 in response to Trump's tariff hike on a similar amount of Chinese goods.

It also said it was scrapping deals made with Washington to narrow China's politically volatile trade surplus with the United States by purchasing more American farm goods, natural gas and other products.

The United States and China have the world's biggest trading relationship but official ties are increasingly strained over complaints Beijing's industry development tactics violate its free-trade pledges and hurt American companies.

Europe, Japan and other trading partners raise similar complaints, but Trump has been unusually direct about challenging Beijing and threatening to disrupt such a large volume of exports.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
4,987.47	2,773.75	7,747.02
−103.01	−5.91	+0.65
−0.41%	−0.21%	+0.0083%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.3542	Hong Kong Dollar	7.8486	Russian Ruble	63.4931
British Pound	0.7544	Indian Rupee	68.2605	Singapore Dollar	1.3528
Canadian Dollar	1.3223	Japanese Yen	109.6570	South Korean Won	1084.72
Chinese Yuan	6.3518	Malaysian Ringgit	3.9557	Swiss Franc	0.9917
Euro	0.8601	New Zealand Dollar	1.4437	Taiwan Dollar	29.6428
		Philippine Peso	52.3087	Thailand Baht	32.6715

Nation

‘Papa! Papa!’ Audio of children stokes rage over separation

BROWNSVILLE, Texas (AP)—An audio recording that appears to capture the heartbreaking voices of small Spanish-speaking children crying out for their parents at a U.S. immigration facility took center stage Monday in the growing uproar over the Trump administration’s policy of separating immigrant children from their parents.

“Papa! Papa!” one child is heard weeping in the audio file that was first reported by the nonprofit ProPublica and later provided to The Associated Press.

Human rights attorney Jennifer Harbury said she received the tape from a whistleblower and told ProPublica it was recorded in the last week. She did not provide details about where exactly it was recorded.

Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen said she had not heard the audio but said children taken into custody by the government are being treated humanely. She said the government has high standards for detention centers and the children are well cared for, stressing that Congress needs to plug loopholes in the law so families can stay together.

AP

In this photo provided by U.S. Customs and Border Protection, a U.S. Border Patrol agent watches as people who’ve been taken into custody related to cases of illegal entry into the United States, stand in line at a facility in McAllen, Texas, Sunday, June 17, 2018.

The audio surfaced as politicians and advocates flocked to the U.S.-Mexico border to visit U.S. immigration detention centers and turn up the pressure on the Trump administration.

And the backlash over the policy widened. The Mormon church said it is “deeply troubled” by the separation of families at the border and urged national leaders to find compassionate solutions. Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker, a Republican, reversed a decision to send a National Guard helicopter from his state to the Mexican border to assist in a deployment, citing the administration’s “cruel and inhumane” policy.

At the border, an estimated 80 people pleaded guilty Monday to immigration charges, including some who asked the judge questions such as “What’s going to happen to my daughter?” and “What will happen to my son?”

Attorneys at the hearings said the immigrants had brought two dozen boys and girls with them to the U.S., and the judge replied that he didn’t know what would happen to their children.

Several groups of lawmakers toured a nearby facility in Brownsville, Texas, that houses hundreds of immigrant children.

Democratic Rep. Ben Ray Lujan of New Mexico said the location was a former hospital converted into living quarters for children, with rooms divided by age group. There was even a small room for infants, complete with two high chairs, where two baby boys wore matching rugby style shirts with orange and white stripes.

Another group of lawmakers on Sunday visited an old warehouse in McAllen, Texas, where hundreds of children are being held in cages created by metal fencing. One cage held 20 youngsters.

More than 1,100 people were inside the large, dark facility, which is divided into separate wings for unaccompanied children, adults on their own, and mothers and fathers with children.

In Texas’ Rio Grande Valley, the busiest corridor for people trying to enter the U.S., Border Patrol officials say they must crack down on migrants and separate adults from children as a deterrent to others trying to get into the U.S. illegally.

“When you exempt a group of people from the law ... that creates a draw,” said Manuel Padilla, the Border Patrol’s chief agent there.

House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, speaking to reporters during a tour of San Diego immigration detention facilities with Rep. Juan Vargas and other House Democrats, said family separation is a “heartbreaking, barbarian issue that could be changed in a moment by the president of the United States rescinding his action.”

H. Clinton: Separating families at border a ‘moral crisis’

NEW YORK (AP)—Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton on Monday called the Trump administration’s “zero tolerance” policy that has separated children from their parents at the southern U.S. border “a moral and humanitarian crisis.”

Speaking at an awards lunch for the Women’s Forum of New York, Clinton said what was happening to families at the U.S.-Mexico border is “horrific.”

“Every human being with a sense of compassion and decency should be outraged,” Clinton said.

The separations stem from a policy that turns all cases of people trying to enter the country illegally over for criminal prosecution. Children are not detained with their parents when those parents are facing a criminal charge, as per U.S. protocol.

President Donald Trump has defended the policy, which has taken nearly 2,000 immigrant children away from their parents.

“The United States will not be a migrant camp and it will not be a refugee holding facility,” he added. “Not on my watch,” Trump said Monday.

Clinton, the 2016 Democratic presidential nominee, said she had warned during the campaign that Trump’s hardline immigration stance would result in family separations.

“Now as we watch with broken hearts, that’s exactly what’s happening,” she said.

The policy has come under increasingly strong criticism, with accounts of children kept in cages and parents not knowing where their children are.

Trump has falsely blamed Democrats, and his administration has echoed his stance by claiming it was enforcing the law, with some using the Bible as religious justification.

Clinton pushed back on all of those points, saying the separations are required by no law and grounded in no religion.

“The test of any nation is how we treat the most vulnerable among us,” she said. “We are a better country than one that tears families apart.”

Border separations ripple through midterm campaigns

Wrenching scenes of migrant children being separated from their parents at the southern border are roiling campaigns ahead of midterm elections, emboldening Democrats on the often-fraught issue of immigration while forcing an increasing number of Republicans to break from President Donald Trump on a matter that animates the GOP’s most ardent supporters.

Kim Schrier, a Democrat running for a House seat outside of Seattle, said Trump is pushing an “absolutely unethical, inhumane” policy.

“We are talking about American values, not Democratic values or Republican values, and this is something that will flip people to a Democrat in this election,” Schrier said.

That prospect was enough for House Republicans’ national campaign chairman, Ohio Rep. Steve Stivers, to offer cover Monday to vulnerable GOP members. Stivers said in a statement that he’s asking “the administration to stop needlessly separating children from their parents” and suggested he’d examine legislative options if Trump doesn’t budge.

Republican Rep. Mike Coffman, whose suburban Denver district is often a battleground, took the cover Stivers provided. He didn’t mention Trump, but said the border policy “is antithetical to the America I grew up in.” He said he’s willing to co-sponsor a House version of a Senate proposal from Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., that would halt the family separations, and he echoed claims Democrats had made for days: “History won’t remember well those who support the continuation of this policy.”

Democrat Jason Crow, a leading candidate to unseat Coffman, said the congressman can’t run from his previous support for “zero-tolerance” border security. “This is what that looks like,” Crow said, adding that as “an American and as a father” he finds the border situation “immoral.”

With control of the House — and potentially the Senate — up for grabs, the searing images coming from the border have the potential to scramble midterm politics. Though controversy has dominated Trump’s presidency, the growing furor over the separations struck a deeply emotional chord in both parties that may not calm anytime soon — even in districts that don’t have large immigrant or Hispanic populations.

Pennsylvania’s Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick, another vulnerable Republican, said he plans to visit the border “to see what’s going on down there with my own eyes.” He called the detainees “our planet’s children” and said they shouldn’t be punished “for things that their parents do or don’t do.”

The political reverberations from the separations could last well beyond the midterms. Sen. Kamala Harris, D-Calif., a potential 2020 presidential candidate, said Monday that Homeland Security Secretary Kristjen Nielsen should resign.

Trump along with most Republicans have long believed that they have held the upper hand on immigration. While Democrats have argued that most Americans support granting a path to citizenship for children who were brought to the U.S. illegally, the Republican base is fervently opposed to such measures — and votes accordingly. That’s why some political observers say this moment is so unique.

“It’s been tough for Democrats to bring the issue of compassion out on a national scale” when talking about immigration, said James Aldrete, a Democratic campaign consultant in Texas. But now, Aldrete said, “Trump has done it for us.”

Democrats are hoping the issue will encourage more Latino voters to show up on Election Day, while also providing an opening for non-Hispanic independents in other swing districts.

Asia

PH airstrikes target IS-linked militants near Marawi

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine military airstrikes and ground assaults targeted a group of Islamic State group-linked militants in an offensive that reportedly killed five extremists and forced more than 5,000 villagers to flee to safety in the south, officials said Monday.

Army Col. Romeo Brawner said the offensive Sunday sparked gunbattles between troops and the extremists in Tubaran town in a mountainous region of Lanao del Sur province and the military was verifying reports that at least of five militants had been killed.

Troops captured a jungle camp where they found empty ammunition boxes, and were pursuing the militants, Brawner said.

The offensive targeted about 40 militants led by Owayda Benito Marohombsar, who uses the nom de guerre Abu Dar. He was among those who led a five-month siege of Marawi city, not far from Tubaran, but managed to escape before troops quelled the uprising last October.

More than 5,000 villagers from Tuburan and two other nearby towns fled when they heard the brief airstrikes, regional assemblyman Zia Alonto Adiong said. He said more than 700 moved into evacuation centers while others stayed with relatives.

AP

Filipino soldiers walk along a restricted area where government troops battled Islamic extremists in Marawi City, southern Philippines, Friday, June 15, 2018.

Abu Dar's presence in the hinterlands of Tubaran, where he has many relatives, was confirmed last month when his men killed a village leader who resisted their plan to venture into town. The village leader's relatives notified the military about Abu Dar's presence and helped troops hunt down the militants, Adiong said.

Abu Dar is the only locally prominent leader of the bloody Marawi siege who is confirmed to have escaped from the Islamic city after being wounded in the massive military offensive.

He reportedly brought more than 30 million pesos ($577,000) in looted cash out of Marawi, which he could use for militant recruitment and to rebuild his battered organization, Adiong said.

The Marawi siege, which began on May 23 last year, killed more than 1,100 people, mostly militants. It left the mosque city in rubble, caused President Rodrigo Duterte to place the southern third of the largely Roman Catholic country under martial law and prompted fears that the Islamic State group was gaining a foothold in the Asian region. Sporadic offensives continue against militants in other southern provinces.

Adiong said it would take an effective counter-radicalization program and other social programs to fight new generations of militants.

"The government's program against these terrorists should really be good, long-term and comprehensive," he said. "It won't just take bullets to defeat them."

In General Salipada K. Pendatun town in Maguindanao province, south of Lanao del Sur, military officials halted artillery fire in an offensive against Muslim militants aligned with Abu Dar's group after a blast killed a pregnant villager over the weekend, officials said.

Lt. Col. Harold Cabunoc, an army infantry battalion commander, said an investigation was underway to determine if the explosive that killed the woman and wounded another on a farm in the village of Lower Idtig came from the military or the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters.

Kim Jong Un visiting China, expected to discuss his nukes

BEIJING (AP)—North Korean leader Kim Jong Un is making a two-day visit to Beijing starting Tuesday and is expected to discuss with Chinese leaders his next steps after his nuclear summit with President Donald Trump last week.

Kim's visit to Beijing, while expected, is one way for China to highlight its crucial role in U.S. efforts to get North Korea to abandon its nuclear program. The U.S. has long looked to China to use its influence with North Korea to bring it to negotiations, but the visit comes as ties between Beijing and Washington are being tested by a major trade dispute.

Chinese President Xi Jinping "is exerting a lot of influence from behind the scenes," said Bonnie Glaser, senior adviser for Asia at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington. Glaser said it was predictable Xi would want to be briefed by Kim directly about the North Korean leader's talks with Trump.

"I expect they will talk about the path going forward and where priorities should lie," Glaser said. Those priorities, from China's perspective, would be to ensure that Beijing is included in any in peace treaty talks and for creating an environment on the Korean Peninsula that will make it unnecessary for US troops to remain.

Security was tight Tuesday morning in the Pyongyang airport, where another flight was unexpectedly delayed, and later at the Beijing airport where paramilitary police prevented journalists from shooting photos. A motorcade including sedans, minibuses, motorcycles and a stretch limo with a golden emblem similar to one Kim used previously was seen leaving the airport.

Roads near the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse, where senior Chinese officials meet with visiting leaders, were closed and the same motorcade with motorcycle escorts was later seen heading into the compound. A ring of police vehicles and black sedans surrounded the perimeter of the guesthouse where Kim stayed on his first visit earlier this year. Kim's presence there and the schedule of his visit, including any meetings with Xi, have not been confirmed.

Kim was diplomatically isolated for years before making his first foreign trip as leader in March to meet with Xi in Beijing. This would be his third visit to China, North Korea's main ally and key source of trade and economic assistance. Following his summit with Trump, Kim was expected to meet with Chinese leaders to discuss progress in halting his country's missile and nuclear weapons programs in exchange for economic incentives.

The Singapore meeting resulted in a surprise announcement of a U.S. suspension of military drills with its South Korean ally, a goal long pursued by Beijing and Pyongyang. That move is seen as potentially weakening defenses and diplomacy among America's Asian allies, while bolstering China and Russia.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Afghan Sikh leader holds out hope for dwindling minority

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Avtar Singh Khalsa will represent Afghanistan's tiny Sikh and Hindu minority in the next parliament, where he says he hopes to serve the entire country. Few Afghans are as invested in the government's quest for peace and stability as the dwindling Sikh and Hindu minorities, which have been decimated by decades of conflict. The community numbered more than 80,000 in the 1970s, but today only around 1,000 remain. Khalsa, a Sikh and longtime leader of the community, will run unopposed for a seat in the lower house of parliament that was apportioned to the minority by presidential decree in 2016. After the October election, he will be a solitary voice among 259 legislators, but hopes his 10 years of service in the Afghan army can help him secure a seat on the defense and security committee. "I don't only want to serve my Sikh and Hindu brothers. I have to be able to serve all the Afghan people, no matter which ethnicity or group they belong to. Our services must reach everyone," he told The Associated Press during an interview inside a colorfully decorated temple in Kabul.

Dozens missing after ferry sinking at Indonesia's Lake Toba

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—Dozens of people are missing from a ferry that sank on Indonesia's Lake Toba, casting a tragic pall over holidays marking the end of the Muslim holy month. Cellphone video released Tuesday by the National Disaster Mitigation Agency shows the crew of another ferry attempting to rescue people struggling in the waters shortly after the sinking Monday evening but being hampered by bad weather and rough waters. Local police chief Marudut Liberty Panjaitan said 18 people have been rescued and one death confirmed. So far 49 people are confirmed missing, he said, based on reports from relatives. Initial estimates were that 80 people were on board but there was no passenger manifest and the number may range from 70 to 130, disaster agency spokesman Sutopo Purwo Nugroho said on Twitter.

Pentagon suspends August military drills with South Korea

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Pentagon on Monday formally suspended a major military exercise planned for August with South Korea, a much-anticipated move stemming from President Donald Trump's nuclear summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. Dana White, spokeswoman for the Defense Department, said planning for the summer drills has stopped, but there have been no decisions made on any other military exercises with South Korea. Military exercises with other countries in the Pacific will continue. Speaking at a news conference last Tuesday after his summit with Kim, Trump abruptly announced that he was suspending military exercises with the South, "unless and until we see the future negotiation is not going along like it should." He added that dumping the drills will save the U.S. "a tremendous amount of money. Plus, I think it's very provocative." His announcement appeared to catch U.S. defense officials by surprise, and his comments ran counter to long-held American arguments that the exercises are critical for effective operations with allies and are defensive in nature. The Pentagon has for years flatly denied North Korean assertions that the exercises are "provocative."

World

Doubts loom over Colombia peace deal with hawk's election

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)—Uncertainty loomed over Colombia's fragile peace deal on Monday with the victory of one of its most hawkish critics in a bruising presidential runoff that laid bare deep divisions in the South American nation as it emerges from decades of bloody conflict.

Ivan Duque, a law-and-order disciple of a powerful former president, won Sunday's vote with a commanding 12-point lead over rival Gustavo Petro, a former rebel and ex-Bogota mayor.

On the campaign trail, Duque repeatedly vowed to roll back benefits inscribed in the deal, such as demanding that rebel commanders behind scores of atrocities first confess to their war crimes and compensate victims before they are allowed to take up the congressional seats they have been promised in the accord.

But once he takes office in August from the peace deal's architect, President Juan Manuel Santos, Duque is likely to tread softer if he wants to broaden his base of support and unite the country, analysts said.

"Ironically, he has a chance to make the accords stronger by providing something the peace process has lacked from the outset: a national consensus," said Michael Shifter, a longtime observer of Colombia and president of the Inter-American Dialogue in Washington.

AP
Colombia's President Elect Ivan Duque celebrates his victory in the presidential runoff election, in Bogota, Colombia, Sunday, June 17, 2018.

This year's elections were the safest in generations, a testament to how far the country has already come in putting Latin America's longest-running conflict behind it. Not a single act of violence affected the campaign.

In the final stretch before the vote, as victory seemed within reach, the pro-business Duque was already moderating some of his proposals, including a call to overturn a negotiated amnesty for rebels involved in drug trafficking. He also stressed that rank-and-file guerrillas of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia would have his full support in making their transition to civilian life.

While Santos didn't endorse any candidate and has feuded with Duque's mentor, former President Alvaro Uribe, throughout his eight years in office, two of Santos' advisers on the peace process have quietly migrated to the Duque camp in recent months, which is likely to make for a smoother transition.

"This is the opportunity that we have been waiting for," the 41-year-old Duque said in his victory speech, playing up his youth—he is the youngest Colombian president ever elected in a popular vote—and pledging "to turn the page on the politics of polarization, insults and venom."

His biggest challenge will be reining in the pressure from conservative allies. As a senator Duque earned a reputation for being a thoughtful, cordial adversary who frequently stretched his hand across the aisle, but some of his prominent backers are outright hostile to the FARC. Hours after his victory, congresswoman Maria Fernanda Cabal blasted on social media: "The FARC lost. Colombia won!"

One unknown is how much influence Uribe will wield. Duque was elected to Colombia's Senate in 2014 barely two months after returning to Colombia from Washington, where he had worked for more than a decade at a development bank, thanks to Uribe's endorsement. Throughout his presidential campaign, he was dogged by accusations that he would be little more than a puppet for Uribe, who is constitutionally barred from seeking a third term. Though praised for weakening the FARC and drawing record foreign investment, Uribe has also been blamed for the military's killing of thousands of civilians who were falsely accused of being rebels.

US urges Russia to release political and religious prisoners

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Trump administration urged Russia on Monday to release what it called a growing number of political and religious prisoners, warning that President Vladimir Putin's government was turning to "old Soviet practices" to deny rights to detainees.

The condemnation came as President Donald Trump considers holding a summit with Putin and faces continuing questions about whether his administration is insufficiently tough on Russia. In recent months, Trump's administration has taken a number of steps to put pressure on Moscow, including sanctions, but Trump has also raised concerns with comments suggesting that Russia should be allowed back into the Group of 7—formerly the Group of 8—industrialized economies despite its annexation of Ukraine's Crimea.

The State Department said it was "deeply concerned" about the problem and added that the number of such prisoners now exceeds 150 people, according to what the U.S. said were credible human rights organizations. State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert said the U.S. was calling on Russia to cease using its legal system to "suppress dissent and peaceful religious practice."

"The Russian people, like people everywhere, deserve equal treatment under the law and the ability to exercise their rights without fear of retribution," Nauert said.

The Russian embassy in Washington didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

A senior State Department official said the U.S. had seen a threefold increase in political prisoners in Russia since 2014, along with the use of Soviet practices such as stripping prisoners of parental rights and keeping at least one prisoner detained in a location above the Arctic Circle, despite harsh conditions there.

The official would not answer questions about why Trump's administration was taking particular issue with Russian political prisoners despite downplaying the issue of North Korean political prisoners and other human rights abuses during Trump's summit with Kim Jong Un. Nor would the official explain why the U.S. was taking particular issue with the removal of parental rights from prisoners even as it faces mushrooming criticism over thousands of migrant children being split from their parents by U.S. authorities at the southern border.

The official wasn't authorized to be identified by name and briefed reporters on a conference call on condition of anonymity.

The Trump administration called specific attention to the case of four Ukrainians on a hunger strike, including filmmaker and dissident Oleg Sentsov, a staunch opponent of Russia's annexation of Crimea, where Sentsov is from. In 2015, in a case seen largely as retribution for his views, Sentsov was convicted of conspiracy to commit terror attacks and sentenced to 20 years in prison. He's been on a hunger strike demanding the release of all Ukrainian political prisoners held by Russia.

Merkel, allies avert collision for now in German migrant row

BERLIN (AP)—Chancellor Angela Merkel's allies in Bavaria averted an immediate collision Monday with the German leader, giving her two weeks to make deals on migrants with other European countries instead of turning them back unilaterally at Germany's border.

In her fourth term at the helm of Europe's largest economy, Merkel made it clear that she has no intention of being pushed around after an internal power struggle over immigration escalated into a threat to her government.

She said she would report back July 1 on the results of her negotiations, and that as far as she's concerned it's not yet clear what will happen if there's no European deal on the divisive topic.

Her interior minister, Horst Seehofer, has been calling for Germany to turn back migrants at the border who have previously applied for asylum or registered as asylum-seekers in other European countries.

Merkel opposes such unilateral action, arguing that it would increase pressure on Mediterranean countries such as Italy and Greece and weaken the entire 28-nation European Union.

Seehofer heads the Bavaria-only Christian Social Union, the sister party to Merkel's Christian Democratic Union. The CSU is determined to show that it's tough on migration, arguing that this is the best way to cut support for the anti-migration, far-right Alternative for Germany party ahead of a challenging state election in Bavaria in October.

A CSU leadership meeting Monday in Munich unanimously backed Seehofer's plan to give Merkel until the end of the month to find a solution with other EU countries. That banished—if only for now—the specter of Seehofer pushing through his proposal in defiance of the chancellor, which would risk bringing down her government.

Asked in Berlin whether her government can work well until the end of its term in 2021 and whether she is still in full control, Merkel replied: "Yes to both."

Merkel emphasized the need for Germany's conservative parties to stick together, but she and Seehofer may only have delayed a head-on collision.

"We think that turning people back without consultation at our borders, as a country at the heart of Europe, could lead to negative domino effects that could also hurt Germany and ultimately lead to the questioning of European unity," Merkel said after her party's leadership met.

Merkel said she would hold bilateral agreement talks during a June 28-29 EU summit. Her party will consider the results on July 1 "and decide how to proceed in light of what has been achieved," she said.

It wasn't immediately clear what she might offer other countries in the talks. Merkel said she will have to discuss "what is important for others; I can't say today what that is."

Hours later, Merkel met in Berlin with Italian Premier Giuseppe Conte, the head of a new, populist government whose interior minister has pledged to deport tens of thousands of migrants.

Focus

Compulsive video-game playing could be mental health problem

AP
In this Friday, Nov. 3, 2017 file photo, a man plays a game at the Paris Games Week in Paris. The World Health Organization says that compulsively playing video games now qualifies as a new mental health condition, in a move that some critics warn may risk stigmatizing its young players.

By JAMEY KEATEN and MARIA CHENG
ASSOCIATED PRESS

GENEVA (AP)—Obsessive video gamers know how to anticipate dangers in virtual worlds. The World Health Organization says they now should be on guard for a danger in the real world: spending too much time playing.

In its latest revision to a disease classification manual, the U.N. health agency said Monday that compulsively playing video games now qualifies as a mental health condition. The statement confirmed the fears of some parents but led critics to warn that it may risk stigmatizing too many young video players.

WHO said classifying "gaming disorder" as a separate addiction will help governments, families and health care workers be more vigilant and prepared to identify the risks. The agency and other experts were quick to note that cases of the condition are still very rare, with no more than up to 3 percent of all gamers believed to be affected.

Dr. Shekhar Saxena, director of WHO's department for mental health and substance abuse, said the agency accepted the proposal that gaming disorder should be listed as a new problem based on scientific evidence, in addition to "the need and the demand for treatment in many parts of the world."

Dr. Joan Harvey, a spokeswoman for the British Psychological Society, warned that the new designation might cause unnecessary concern among parents.

"People need to understand this doesn't mean every child who spends hours in their room playing games is an addict, otherwise medics are going to be flooded with requests for help," she said.

Others welcomed WHO's new classification, saying it was critical to identify people hooked on video games quickly because they are usually teenagers or young adults who don't seek help themselves.

"We come across parents who are distraught, not only because they're seeing their child drop out of school, but because they're seeing an entire family structure fall apart," said Dr. Henrietta Bowden-Jones, a spokeswoman for behavioral addictions at Britain's Royal College of Psychiatrists. She was not connected to WHO's decision.

Bowden-Jones said gaming addictions were usually best treated with psychological therapies but that some medicines might also work.

The American Psychiatric Association has not yet deemed gaming disorder to be a new mental health problem. In a 2013 statement, the association said it's "a condition warranting more clinical research and experience before it might be considered for inclusion" in its own diagnostic manual.

The group noted that much of the scientific literature about compulsive gamers is based on evidence from young men in Asia.

"The studies suggest that when these individuals are engrossed in Internet games, certain pathways in their brains are triggered in the same direct and intense way that a drug addict's brain is affected by a particular substance," the association said in that statement. "The gaming prompts a neurological response that influences feelings of pleasure and reward, and the result, in the extreme, is manifested as addictive behavior."

Dr. Mark Griffiths, who has been researching the concept of video gaming disorder for 30 years, said the new classification would help legitimize the problem and strengthen treatment strategies.

"Video gaming is like a non-financial kind of gambling from a psychological point of view," said Griffiths, a distinguished professor of behavioral addiction at Nottingham Trent University. "Gamblers use money as a way of keeping score whereas gamers use points."

He guessed that the percentage of video game players with a compulsive problem was likely to be extremely small—much less than 1 percent—and that many such people would likely have other underlying problems, like depression, bipolar disorder or autism.

WHO's Saxena, however, estimated that 2 to 3 percent of gamers might be affected.

Griffiths said playing video games, for the vast majority of people, is more about entertainment and novelty, citing the overwhelming popularity of games like "Pokemon Go."

"You have these short, obsessive bursts and yes, people are playing a lot, but it's not an addiction," he said.

Saxena said parents and friends of video game enthusiasts should still be mindful of a potentially harmful problem.

"Be on the lookout," he said, noting that concerns should be raised if the gaming habit appears to be taking over.

"If (video games) are interfering with the expected functions of the person—whether it is studies, whether it's socialization, whether it's work—then you need to be cautious and perhaps seek help," he said.

Good Housekeeping

5 mistakes you're making when purchasing garden supplies

By DEBBIE CARLSON
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Raised beds and vertical gardens, especially on rooftops, can dry out quickly and may need daily watering.
TNS

It's easy to drop serious cash in a garden supply shop, falling in love with a gorgeous yucca plant or picking up a bunch of bargain tools.

But when the that sun-loving yucca dies in your shady, wet-soil backyard, or that plastic-handled spade breaks the first time you used, you've wasted money and you're frustrated. To help you avoid financial heartbreak, garden experts shared common mistakes they see new gardeners make.

1 You've neglected the soil. Joe Raboine, national design and training specialist for Belgard, a landscape supply firm, said that when people dig up part of their yard, install a raised bed or build a small vertical garden, good soil will mean the difference between plants that thrive and those that wither. Plants need a foot of soil to grow properly, he said. In some yards, much of the original topsoil is gone and needs to be replaced. In raised beds, Raboine said, "people don't put enough decent soil in. They put in, let's say, a bunch of scraps or gravel or things in the bottom of the container, and it just doesn't give plants enough of a place to grow roots."

Remedy this by buying topsoil or garden soil for yards and potting soil for raised beds and containers.

2 Choosing the wrong plants—and cramming in too many. Tim Johnson, senior director of horticulture at Chicago Botanic Garden, and Renee Young, manager at Christy Webber Farm and Garden, see these mistakes a lot.

"Where a lot of people go wrong from the get-go is they don't know plants. You're in the garden center and you see something that's in flower and beautiful, and it's like, 'Oh, that would look great in this corner of my garden,' " Johnson said.

But gardeners need to consider their spot's growing conditions. A plant that likes marshy conditions doesn't do well in dry soils, just as a plant that wants afternoon sun might not tolerate shade. Think about your design goals, he said, and talk to the staff for advice on what plants will fulfill those dreams. If your heart is set on a flowering viburnum that can mature at 7 or 8 feet high, but you don't have the space, ask if there's a dwarf version that will look just as good.

Young said she sees people stuffing too many plants into small spaces. "People will want to put three tomatoes in a 12-inch pot, and really one 12-inch pot is barely big enough for one tomato plant," she said.

A tomato plant without a roommate will likely produce more fruits than those in the overcrowded pot that will be fighting for nutrients and light, she said.

3 Buying cheap tools. Bargain tools don't last. That doesn't mean you have to buy the most expensive tools available, but you should invest in quality. Johnson said gardeners should pick up the tools and judge how they feel in their hands. Look for something comfortable and sturdy, he said, which may mean something different for each gardener. Good-quality tools have warranties, Young said. She likes hand tools by Dutch company DeWit, which have lifetime warranties.

"I try to encourage people to go with that tool that's going to last you a lifetime over something that's less expensive and may break after a couple of seasons," she said.

Other brands she recommends are Corona and, for pruners, she said, they all use ones by Felco, whether at the store or on landscaping jobs.

4 You didn't think about watering. Raised beds and vertical gardens, especially on rooftops, can dry out quickly. They may need daily watering and even more when temps hit 90. Raboine and Young said you need to buy, at a minimum, a watering can and hose. Young said Bond Aeroflex ($24.99 www.jet.com) makes attractive expandable hoses that shrink for storage in small places. Raboine said another option is to install drip irrigation, either with kits, such as those by DIG ($29.94, www.homedepot.com) or by creating your own by drilling holes in PVC pipes. Improper watering can stunt or kill plants.

5 You're overdoing it on fertilizer or pesticides. If you're gardening to be more environmental, the last thing you want to do is waste money on expensive fertilizers, and many of these can make your plant dependent on the feedings.

"(Synthetic) can harm your plant quite a bit. If you overfertilize, it will burn the roots of the plant, or the plant is so dependent on the synthetic fertilizer that the minute you stop using it, it begins to fail because it needs that constantly," Young said. She recommends organic fertilizers that feed the microbes and the soil, which will then in turn feed your plants.

Johnson frowns on the yearlong fertilizer programs that "weed and feed" lawns, such as powders or granular types in bags available at garden-supply shops, noting many release unneeded chemicals. If you feel the need to treat existing insect or weed problems, he recommends using liquid sprays for spot treatments.

"In my mind, … you shouldn't be applying any sort of a pesticide, whether it's herbicide or insecticide if you don't need to," he said.

On Gardening: Golden Delicious pineapple sage

By NORMAN WINTER
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

There is an old adage that you can't have your cake and eat it too, which is most likely correct, but with Golden Delicious I assure you, you can have your pineapple and eat it too. Well maybe I should clarify; we aren't taking fruit, but the most luscious sage on the planet.

Golden Delicious pineapple sage made its debut about 15 years ago and has steadily climbed in popularity winning awards across the country. Once you grow it, you'll never want to be without it. Just merely brushing up against the leaves will leave you in a state of olfactory euphoria.

The fragrance of the leaves also constitutes the flavors for drinks, jams and cream cheese. Then for the ultimate WOW, consider that golden chartreuse is the hottest color in the garden. Everything looks better partnered with Golden Delicious.

Just these attributes alone would make it a must-have plant but consider in the fall it sends out brilliant red blossoms that bring in both hummingbirds and butterflies. These blossoms, too, are edible if you are so inclined.

My favorite usage is as pocket or filler plant in mixed containers. But, I am also using them in the landscape where they are like golden lanterns growing with cupheas and blue salvias.

The pineapple sage is known botanically as Salvia elegans and is native to Tropical Mexico and Guatemala. Despite this natural proclivity for the tropics it does very well in the United States as an annual or as a perennial in zones 8 and warmer. Occasionally you'll find them return in zone 7, which is a cause for celebration.

Though I have seen the pineapple sage in full sun, I think it is a happier plant in morning sun and afternoon shade. As mentioned above, the soil must be well drained. Remember the key to the green thumb is how brown it gets first in soil preparation.

Plant on raised beds or amend heavy, tight soils with the addition of compost or humus. Well-drained soil will encourage a spring return further north than expected.

While preparing the soil incorporate 2 pounds of a slow-release fertilizer like 12-6-6 per 100 square feet of bed space. Space the plants 24 inches apart planting at the same depth they are growing in the container. They can reach 36 to 48 inches in height.

Though tough plants, remember to give supplemental water during prolonged dry periods. In the fall, once the plant has received significant frost damage, prune to the ground and give an added layer of mulch for protection. You might want to take a few cuttings in the fall before the frost damage has occurred.

Then in the spring feed your salvias with a light application of fertilizer with the emergence of growth and every 6 to 8 weeks through September. You may wish to pinch a couple of times to maintain bushiness. If you want to use leaves for flavoring then harvest the young tender foliage early in the morning.

In the landscape, the pineapple sage is well suited to a number of uses, from the herb garden, tropical garden, cottage garden and the backyard wildlife habitat. In addition to the Golden Delicious and the Proven Winners Rockin' Golden Delicious, you may also find the typical green-leafed form.

Regardless, it's the leaves that are always a treat, yielding the aroma and flavor as if you had just opened a can of Del Monte Crushed Pineapple. The ruby throated hummingbird relishes the nectar in the scarlet flowers as much as the culinary artist will enjoy using the leaves to flavor drinks and cream cheese spreads.

Norman Winter, horticulturist, garden speaker and author of, "Tough-as-Nails Flowers for the South" and "Captivating Combinations: Color and Style in the Garden." Follow him on Facebook @NormanWinterTheGardenGuy.

Life & Style

In 'Jurassic World,' a dino-sized animal-rights parable

AP
This image released by Universal Pictures shows BD Wong in a scene from, "Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom."

NEW YORK (AP)—The dinosaurs of "Jurassic Park" are many things. They are special-effects wonders. They are unruly house guests. And they are some of the biggest, most foot-stomping metaphors around.

Since Steven Spielberg's 1993 original, the dinos of "Jurassic Park"—many of them not light on their feet to be begin with—have been weighed down with meanings that sometimes shift movie to movie. If they look a touch tired in the latest "Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom," it could be from all the allegorical baggage they've been carrying.

Twenty-five years ago, the dinosaurs—wondrous and horrifying creations at once—stood for the magical but fearsome power of genetic engineering. In 2015′s "Jurassic World," they were focus group-approved theme park attractions that doubled for Hollywood blockbusters themselves.

Now, in "Fallen Kingdom," the scaly ones—again threatened with extinction—are pursued by poachers and others who wish to capture and capitalize on an endangered if dangerous species. The theme appealed to Colin Trevorrow, the director of 2015′s "Jurassic World," now serving as co-writer with Derek Connolly, and as executive producer, alongside Steven Spielberg.

"We have a relationship with animals on this planet that is tenuous and is strained. They suffer from abuse and trafficking and the consequences of our environmental choices," said Trevorrow. "To find a way to build essentially a children's franchise about how we have a responsibility to the creatures that we share the planet with felt like a worthwhile thing to do."

If the previous "Jurassic World" was fashioned as a meta-blockbuster, it made good on its intent. "Jurassic World" blew away expectations, setting a new opening-weekend record and stomping its way to nearly $1.7 billion worldwide. "Fallen Kingdom," with J.A. Bayona taking over as director, has already taken in $370 million overseas (including $112 million in China) before opening in North America on Thursday night.

That takes some of the pressure off "Fallen Kingdom," which was made for about $170 million by Universal Pictures and Amblin Entertainment. But expectations remain high for a 25-year-old franchise that has grossed $4 billion in ticket sales. And the animal-rights gambit of "Fallen Kingdom"—in which the dinosaurs leave the island in cages—has found a mixed critical reaction . Variety called it "a liberal pulp message movie" and "the first cautionary dinosaur-trafficking movie."

"We looked at real animal trafficking in the world and what that process is," says Trevorrow, who's writing and directing the third "Jurassic World" film. "First there's capture and then there's going to be an auction of some kind, a sale. We were following something that felt grounded in the reality that we know. It's a rule that we have that we don't want the dinosaurs to do anything that real animals wouldn't or couldn't do."

The action takes place three years after the melee of "Jurassic World." A soon-to-erupt volcano on Isla Nublar has sparked public debate, complete with Congressional hearings: Should the dinosaurs be saved? An aid to John Hammond, the Jurassic Park founder, has convinced Dallas Bryce Howard's Claire Dearing (now a dino-rights activist) and Chris Pratt's former raptor wrangler Owen Grady to help get the dinosaurs off the island.

The more cloistered second half of the tale most interested Bayona, the Spanish filmmaker known for "The Orphanage" and "A Monster Calls."

"The first time Colin told me about the story, he told me that the second half was going to be a haunted house story," says Bayona. "I thought that was going to be a lot of fun."

For anyone who recalls the frightful kitchen scene of "Jurassic Park," ″Fallen Kingdom" doubles down on the suspense of dinosaurs in tight, domestic quarters, while channeling the franchise's contemplation of science into animal rights. Bayona traces the dinosaurs of "Jurassic World" to the kaiju of movies like "Godzilla."

"There's one line that I love at the beginning of the film when Ian Malcolm (Jeff Goldblum) refers to nuclear power. Nuclear power is the moment when man makes a pivotal change in history," says Bayona. "For the first time, man is over nature. That idea, which means crossing a red line, provokes monsters. The image of the atomic mushroom is very similar to the T-Rex."

"Fallen Kingdom" also had more human issues to tackle. The high heels that Claire traipses through the jungle with in "Jurassic World" sparked criticism from many who derided the film for playing with outdated gender tropes. Trevorrow emphasized that that reaction was not worldwide.

"All that stuff was very domestic but that didn't make it something that didn't deserve to be listened to," says Trevorrow. "So we thought about it. We thought about how that imagery and iconography was affecting certain people and where those responses were coming from. And we definitely applied that when we thought about the next movie."

Trevorrow had numerous conversations with Bayona and his producers about the issue. Now prepared for the jungle, Claire wears more appropriate footwear in "Fallen Kingdom," though Bayona playfully re-introduces her with a shot that opens on her heels.

"There's some irony in the way we introduce Claire because there was such a big controversy with the heels that I just wanted to start with a shot of the heels," says Bayona. "It was trying not to take the whole controversy too seriously."

But the real-world connections that most motivated the filmmakers had more to do with stories like that of the northern white rhino. The last male of the species died in March , a victim of poachers seeking its horns. Debate has followed over whether a "Jurassic Park"-like revival of the rhinos should be carried out.

"It has rendered a species extinct and it's horrifying. And it's our fault as mankind. We did that," says Trevorrow. "It brings up a similar question that the movie brings up. If we did have this technology, if we could bring back the white rhinoceros, do we have a responsibility to do it? I don't personally know the answer to that."

Box Office Top 20: 'Incredibes 2' record inches higher

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Disney and Pixar's record-breaking opening of "Incredibles 2" is even bigger than initially expected. According to final totals Monday from the studios, the animated sequel grossed a massive $182.7 million in its first three days in theaters—a record opening for animated movies by almost $50 million.

In a distant second was the female-led spinoff "Ocean's 8," now in its second weekend in theaters, with $19 million. Third place went to the R-rated comedy "Tag," starring Jeremy Renner and Jon Hamm, which took in $14.9 million in its first weekend.

"Solo: A Star Wars Story" fell to fourth place with $10 million, and "Deadpool 2" rounded out the top five with $$8.7 million.

The top 20 movies at U.S. and Canadian theaters Friday through Sunday, followed by distribution studio, gross, number of theater locations, average receipts per location, total gross and number of weeks in release, as compiled Monday by comScore:

1. "Incredibles 2," Disney, $182,687,905, 4,410 locations, $41,426 average, $182,687,905, 1 Week.

2. "Ocean's 8," Warner Bros., $18,968,184, 4,145 locations, $4,576 average, $78,588,354, 2 Weeks.

3. "Tag," Warner Bros., $14,947,396, 3,382 locations, $4,420 average, $14,947,396, 1 Week.

4. "Solo: A Star Wars Story," Disney, $10,001,056, 3,182 locations, $3,143 average, $193,765,143, 4 Weeks.

5. "Deadpool 2," 20th Century Fox, $8,681,501, 3,212 locations, $2,703 average, $294,562,309, 5 Weeks.

6. "Superfly," Sony, $6,870,740, 2,220 locations, $3,095 average, $9,012,057, 1 Week.

7. "Hereditary," A24, $6,855,063, 2,998 locations, $2,287 average, $27,016,183, 2 Weeks.

8. "Avengers: Infinity War," Disney, $5,442,261, 2,164 locations, $2,515 average, $664,346,211, 8 Weeks.

9. "Adrift," STX Entertainment, $2,200,333, 1,929 locations, $1,141 average, $26,905,478, 3 Weeks.

10. "Book Club," Paramount, $1,827,492, 1,656 locations, $1,104 average, $61,977,585, 5 Weeks.

11. "Gotti," Vertical Entertainment, $1,719,902, 503 locations, $3,419 average, $1,719,902, 1 Week.

12. "Race 3," Yash Raj Films, $1,690,861, 314 locations, $5,385 average, $1,690,861, 1 Week.

13. "A Wrinkle In Time," Disney, $1,678,797, 245 locations, $6,852 average, $99,906,924, 15 Weeks.

14. "Hotel Artemis," Open Road, $1,008,109, 2,299 locations, $438 average, $5,821,628, 2 Weeks.

15. "Won't You Be My Neighbor?," Focus Features, $1,002,709, 96 locations, $10,445 average, $1,710,413, 2 Weeks.

16. "Upgrade," OTL Releasing, $518,330, 646 locations, $802 average, $11,078,295, 3 Weeks.

17. "RBG," Magnolia Pictures, $498,234, 288 locations, $1,730 average, $10,116,762, 7 Weeks.

18. "Life Of The Party," Warner Bros., $448,369, 608 locations, $737 average, $51,850,137, 6 Weeks.

19. "Overboard," Lionsgate, $435,447, 581 locations, $749 average, $48,567,231, 7 Weeks.

20. "Breaking In," Universal, $431,195, 504 locations, $856 average, $45,170,800, 6 Weeks.

No motive, arrests in fatal shooting of rapper XXXTentacion

DEERFIELD BEACH, Fla. (AP)—Troubled rapper-singer XXXTentacion was shot and killed Monday in Florida in what police called an apparent robbery attempt. Investigators don't have a motive, and no arrests have been made.

The 20-year-old rising star, whose real name is Jahseh Dwayne Onfroy, was pronounced dead Monday evening at a Fort Lauderdale-area hospital, the Broward Sheriff's Office said. He was shot earlier outside a Deerfield Beach motorcycle dealership.

XXXTentacion had been at RIVA Motorsports checking out inventory, sheriff's public information officer Keyla Concepcion said. He was in a black BMW i8 and preparing to leave before 4 p.m. when two armed suspects approached him. At least one of them fired, and then both suspects fled the scene in a dark SUV, Concepcion said.

Stephanie Martinez, a 29-year-old mother who lives in the neighborhood, was just coming back from the pool with her kids when she heard three shots. She drove to the end of the street and saw the rapper's body in the car.

"He has his mouth open and his hand out. Two people went over and checked his pulse," said Martinez, who also saw blood. "It's just weird because he should've had security and stuff with him."

On Twitter, his peers expressed shock and sadness.

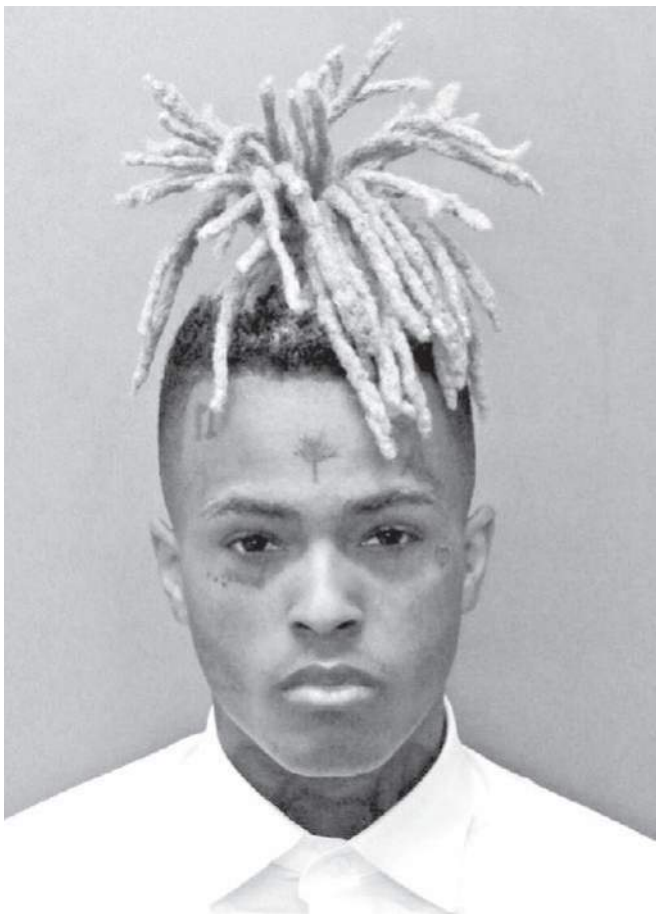
Kanye West said: "rest in peace ... I never told you how much you inspired me when you were here thank you for existing." Producer Diplo posted a photo of the two together and said, "Thanks for inspiring me." Travis Barker tweeted: "I'm at a loss for words... speechless #RIPXXXTentacion Loved collaborating with you. You were a true artist ..."

And J. Cole said, in part: "RIP X. Enormous talent and limitless potential and a strong desire to be a better person. God bless his family, friends and fans."

The entertainer, who sported dreadlocks and a number of facial tattoos, was a rising star and notched a No. 1 album in March with his sophomore effort "?" and had a top 10 hit with "Sad!" but was facing trial on charges that he beat up his pregnant girlfriend.

XXXTentacion racked up huge streaming numbers—on Spotify, his "Sad!" had more than 270 million streams and was on its Top 50 chart this week in the United States and globally. He also has several songs that have been declared platinum, including "Changes," "Roll in Peace" with fellow rapper Kodak Black and "Look at Me!"

In interview with XXL magazine, which named him an up-and-coming artist last year, the rapper cited Nirvana, the Notorious B.I.G. and Tupac Shakur among his musical influences.



AP
This undated mugshot released by the Miami- Dade Corrections & Rehabilitation Department shows rapper XXXTentacion.

"Obviously, I'm one of the greatest of this generation, the upcoming generation, as far as artistry. ... And I say that humbly," he said in a video interview with the outlet last year.

But much of his brief career had been mired in controversy. In 2016, he was arrested on charges including home invasion for a 2015 incident, and less than a month later was arrested on charges that he attacked his girlfriend, who was pregnant at the time, and was jailed, and later faced more charges including witness tampering.

Regarding a June 2017 attack at a San Diego concert, the following messages were posted on XXXTentacion's Twitter account: "security and venue set me up, I got sucker punched and knocked out, it is what it is."

A subsequent tweet said," "next time make sure you kill me so I can't talk (expletive)."

He was released from jail on house arrest late last year and was released from house arrest earlier this year to allow him to tour.

Fan Wyatt Rubin, 21, jumped in his car and headed to the scene shooting Monday as soon as he heard, playing the rapper's songs like "Jocelyn Flores" and "King" on the drive over.

"He was just maturing as a person and as an artist ... it couldn't have come at a worse time," Rubin said. "A lot of it was really beautiful music, progressive music.'"

In an interview earlier this month with the Miami New Times, XXXTentacion described his upbringing, which included seeing his mother infrequently and being raised by friends, other family and babysitters. His mother would buy him clothes, phones and other gifts. He told the paper he used violence so she would engage with him.

"I used to beat kids at school just to get her to talk to me, yell at me," he said.

XXXTentacion was initially one of two artists Spotify removed from its promoted playlists in May in accordance with its new policy on hateful music and conduct. But after a backlash in the music industry, Spotify backpedaled and said it would no longer attempt to police conduct and restored XXXTentacion to its playlists (although they did not do the same for R. Kelly).

Private jet once owned by Elvis Presley for sale—again

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)—A private jet once owned by Elvis Presley that has sat on a runway in New Mexico for nearly four decades is back on the auction block.

The online auction site IronPlanet announced this week that the plane with red velvet seats had returned the market after its current owner bought it last year for $430,000.

A previous auction house says Elvis designed the interior that has gold-tone woodwork, red velvet seats and red shag carpet. But the red 1962 Lockheed Jetstar has no engine and needs a restoration of its cockpit.

The plane was owned by Elvis and his father, Vernon Presley.

It has been privately owned for 36 years and sitting on a tarmac in Roswell, New Mexico.

IronPlanet said in a statement the jet is still grounded in Roswell and the current owner "has not made any changes to this piece of history."

Photos of the plane also show the exterior in need of restoration and seats of the cockpit torn.

A previous owner disputed an auction house's claim the king of rock 'n' roll designed its red velvet interior.

Roy McKay told KOB-TV in Albuquerque he designed the interior himself. McKay said that when he purchased the jet, it had a two-toned gray interior and "kind of looked like a casket."

But then-GWS Auctions Inc. spokesman Carl Carter told The Associated Press the auction house is confident Elvis designed the interior, which photos show has red velvet seats and red shag carpet.

IronPlanet also is confident Elvis designed its red velvet interior, Goldstein said.

Federal Aviation Administration records show no interior changes were ever made to the jet, Carter said.

IronPlanet is accepting online bids for the plane until July 27.

Presley was born in Tupelo, Mississippi, on Jan. 8, 1935, and moved to Memphis, Tennessee, with his parents at age 13. He became a leading figure in the fledgling rockabilly scene by covering songs originally performed by African-American artists like Big Mama Thornton ("Hound Dog") and Arthur Crudup ("That's All Right").

His provocative dancing and hit records turned him into one of the 20th century's most recognizable icons. Historians say his music also helped usher in the fall of racial segregation.

Elvis was 42 when he died on Aug. 16, 1977, in Memphis.

Lifelong bachelor's interest in teen girl triggers alarm

DEAR ABBY: I have a 59-year-old brother-in-law who has always been a "proud bachelor." He isn't a rich, handsome, George Clooney-type bachelor, but a hand-to-mouth, burping, uncouth "Shallow Hal" kind of bachelor. He befriended a woman with four daughters, paying most of his attention to one of the daughters. He would take the woman and her girls to dinner, and take the daughters shopping without the mother.

Fast forward eight years. He wants to take the one daughter on a trip to Hawaii. And he has been telling everyone she is now 18 (the girl is still in high school). Should I say something to him, or mind my own business? He will likely hang up on me. I don't know the daughters or their mom well. Am I wrong to hear some alarm bells going off?

WARY IN WASHINGTON

DEAR WARY: No, you are not wrong. The statement that the girl is "now 18" is a red flag for me, too. Rather than talk to your brother-in-law, inform the mother that he may be "grooming" her daughter for something more than an innocent tour of the islands. She should have noticed something was amiss eight years ago, when one daughter was singled out for special treatment, and put a stop to it then.

DEAR ABBY: I have been with my husband for five years. Early in our relationship, he became violent. Because of my economic status at the time, leaving was not an option.

I became pregnant with our child during our first year together. He ended up getting arrested for domestic violence against me (nothing toward our child) twice, and moved out for a year while court proceedings were taking place.

At first, he was incredibly cruel to me. I was so devastated by his arrests that I was grieving as if he had died. He then went through a series of interventions, and sought medical care and psychological counseling. He used to drink, but no longer does.

After a year, I let him move back home. But I no longer feel the same toward him. I am terribly unhappy. Even though he hasn't touched me and has toned down his anger, I can't forget the things he said and did to me. I don't want a divorce, though, because I do still love him. I just don't know how to proceed. Please help me.

VICTIM IN OREGON

DEAR VICTIM: Nowhere in your letter did you mention whether YOU sought counseling to help YOU recover from the verbal and physical abuse. If you didn't, do it now.

There is a saying, "You can't unring the bell." You may love your husband, but verbal abuse can leave as many, or more, scars than physical abuse does. Until and unless you can completely forgive him for what he did to you, you won't be able to move on.

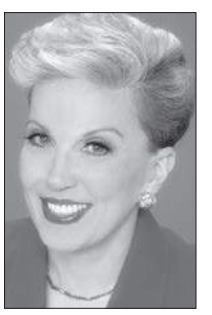
And by the way, if it turns out that you cannot, don't blame or punish yourself for it. Sometimes it's better for two people who care about each other to go their separate ways because it is healthier for both of them.

READER ALERT! If you know a student who would like to enter the $5,000 Dear Abby College Columnist Scholarship contest, see the information on DearAbby.com/scholarship and learn more. The deadline is fast approaching.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

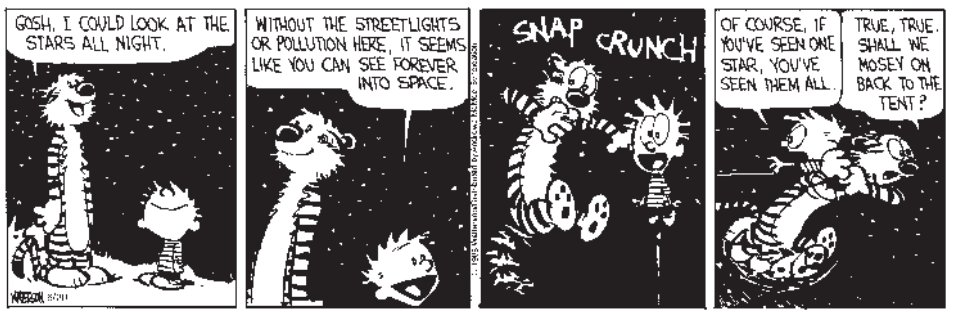


Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

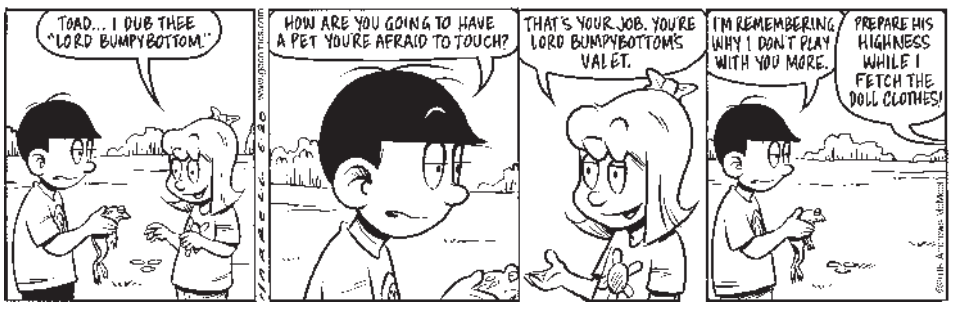

GOSH, I COULD LOOK AT THE STARS ALL NIGHT.
WITHOUT THE STREETLIGHTS OR POLLUTION HERE, IT SEEMS LIKE YOU CAN SEE FOREVER INTO SPACE.
SNAP
CRUNCH
OF COURSE, IF YOU'VE SEEN ONE STAR, YOU'VE SEEN THEM ALL.
TRUE, TRUE. SHALL WE MOSEY ON BACK TO THE TENT?

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


TOAD... I DUB THEE "LORD BUMPYBOTTOM."
HOW ARE YOU GOING TO HAVE A PET YOU'RE AFRAID TO TOUCH?
THAT'S YOUR JOB. YOU'RE LORD BUMPYBOTTOM'S VALET.
I'M REMEMBERING WHY I DON'T PLAY WITH YOU MORE.
PREPARE HIS HIGHNESS WHILE I FETCH THE DOLL CLOTHES!

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

WHY BURY THAT BONE IN THE GROUND?
IT'S JUST GOING TO GET ALL YUCKY AND STINKY.
HAVE YOU SEEN THE INSIDE OF OUR REFRIGERATOR?
GOOD POINT.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Luau souvenir
4 A/C stat
7 Hoedown site
8 Warning sound
10 Funnel-shaped
11 Aerobic workout, briefly
13 1968 Beatles hit
16 Compass dir.
17 Grinch creator
18 Nevertheless, briefly
19 RN's workplace
20 Borscht veggie
21 Masts
23 Actress Linney
25 Guitarist Atkins
26 Tropical tree
27 Hockey's Bobby
28 Belted area
30 By way of
33 1978 Kansas hit
36 Florentine artist
37 Stiff
38 — Martin
39 Redact
40 Thesaurus wd.
41 N.J. neighbor

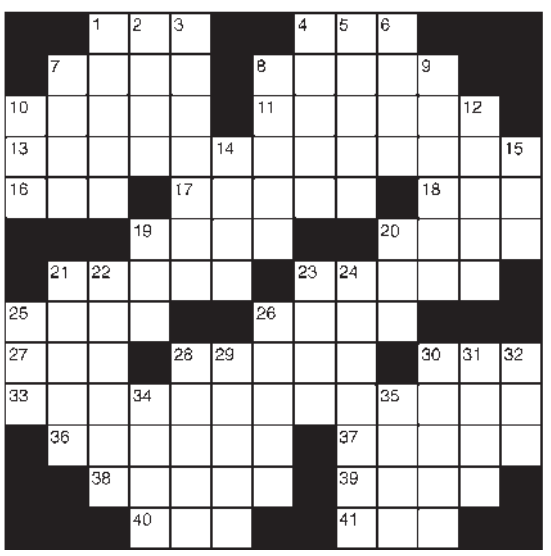
DOWN

1 Jousting weapon
2 Composer Satie
3 Cutting tooth
4 Doldrums
5 Weights of empty shipping containers
6 Pakistan's language
7 Fluffy scarves
8 Make mischief
9 Greenhouse humidifier
10 "Scorpion" network
12 Milo of "The Verdict"
14 Legendary loch
15 Decay
19 Fez, e.g.
20 Vagrant
21 Unspoken "I dunno"
22 Iran, once
23 Cilium
24 Did some tailoring
25 Atlantic fish
26 Mountaineer's spike
28 Humorous
29 Playwright Chekhov
30 Night watch
31 "What's — for me?"
32 Put two and two together?
34 Pitch
35 Broad

Solution time: 23 mins.

G	U	F	F	■	G	A	B	■	L	U	S	■
O	P	I	E	■	E	L	I	■	I	S	L	A
A	D	D	S	■	T	O	O	D	L	E	C	O
T	C	O	T	S	I	E	■	O	A	S	E	S
■	■	■	E	A	T	■	C	D	C	■	■	■
F	E	R	R	Y	■	■	C	O	S	L	O	W
A	G	O	■	■	P	I	N	■	■	F	R	E
T	C	O	C	O	C	I	■	F	D	I	C	■
■	■	■	A	L	P	■	R	N	A	■	■	■
S	C	A	L	D	■	■	C	O	K	O	J	■
T	C	O	L	S	H	E	D	■	C	M	N	■
A	R	N	E	■	A	R	I	■	T	A	I	L
B	E	E	R	■	D	I	N	■	A	R	T	E

Yesterday's answer 6-20



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Hart Denton, 25; Alisan Porter, 37; Nicole Kidman, 51; John Goodman, 66.

Happy Birthday: Count on you and only you when it comes to the changes you want to make in your life this year. Refuse to let someone push you in one direction or another. Make up your mind and follow through with your plans, not someone else's. Keep your life simple. Enforce moderation and you will discover how disciplined you are. Your dedication and loyalty will gain respect as well as self-confidence. Your numbers are 7, 13, 19, 27, 32, 44, 48.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Size up your situation before you move forward. Consider the demands or responsibilities being put on you, and make it clear what you can do and what you cannot. Don't waste time arguing or taking on an impossible physical challenge. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Avoid making physical changes. Concentrate on partnerships, educational journeys or learning from someone with more experience. Gather information. Don't let a personal matter interfere with your success. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Keep your emotions under control and your wits about you when dealing with past relationships or disappointments. Choose to remain positive and to focus on self-improvements that will make you feel good about your future. ✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Find an alternative path to get your way if someone stifles your chance to move forward. Attend a function that will bring you in contact with someone from your past; something interesting will develop. Listen, but don't share too much information. ✪✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Don't disregard what others do or say. You'll have to stay on top of situations that unfold at home or at work to keep someone from making changes that could cost you. Take action if it will help you counter excessive behavior. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* You can stabilize your life if you concentrate on making changes that will cut your overhead. Saving for something that will improve your life will give you an incentive to avoid point-of-purchase sales and frivolous spending. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Put your heart and soul into personal improvements. Get physical and into tip-top shape; you will feel good about your accomplishments. Romance will enhance your life. Don't let an older relative put demands on your time. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Don't give in to temptation. Someone or something will entice you to try something you shouldn't. Consider the consequence before you agree to something that could damage your reputation or a relationship with someone close to you. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Look for an opportunity to advance or to make extra cash, but don't trust someone trying to talk you into a risky venture. Act on your own behalf, and look for solid deals or contracts before you sign on the dotted line. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Keep your emotions in check. If you let someone or something upset you, it will lead to a mistake. Think and apply a practical application to whatever situation you face. Take responsibility for your actions and change what's necessary. ✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Take control of your life and set the standard rather than letting someone else make decisions for you. Have confidence that you know what's best for you, and follow through with your plans until you reach your goal. Romance is in the stars. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Take part in events that are conducive to meeting new people or will bring you closer to someone you love. Partnerships are favored and can make a difference in how you move forward. A positive change in status or position is apparent. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are energetic, possessive and unpredictable. You are creative and mysterious.

(To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.)

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	8	5	6	3	9			
	9		7			5		
6				2			9	
7				4			8	
8	4	3	2	1			6	
	5	1	8				4	
							5	
							2	
				6	2	9	7	8

Difficulty Level ★★★ 6/20

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

9	4	6	8	2	1	7	3	5
5	8	3	6	4	7	2	9	1
2	7	1	3	9	5	8	6	4
8	1	5	2	3	4	6	7	9
3	6	9	7	5	8	4	1	2
7	2	4	9	1	6	3	5	8
6	5	8	1	7	2	9	4	3
1	9	7	4	8	3	5	2	6
4	3	2	5	6	9	1	8	7

Difficulty Level ★★ 5/19

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

MEMES **Solution: 7 letters**

K	E	K	O	J	A	N	I	M	A	T	E	A	C	C
R	G	S	Ⓟ	S	O	O	M	I	M	I	C	O	A	U
O	A	Ⓐ	H	S	T	I	H	R	S	T	N	T	P	L
W	Ⓜ	P	S	A	N	T	A	P	I	C	C	T	T	T
T	I	E	I	D	R	N	R	V	E	H	N	E	I	U
E	L	D	H	D	D	E	I	P	P	E	X	N	O	R
N	E	T	U	O	A	T	T	H	V	T	E	R	N	E
M	Y	Y	M	D	Y	T	R	E	S	U	S	E	N	L
M	E	T	O	U	Q	A	I	M	I	T	A	T	E	B
A	M	A	R	D	S	O	C	I	A	L	E	N	V	A
D	R	O	W	E	E	S	N	S	S	R	L	I	L	T
N	M	A	E	D	I	A	D	G	T	E	P	B	O	A
E	M	A	I	L	B	N	O	A	C	I	M	E	V	L
R	O	V	I	R	A	L	I	L	F	S	I	E	E	E
T	I	N	U	B	B	N	R	E	P	O	S	T	M	R

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Activity, Animate, Attention, Bands, Blog, Caption, Catchphrase, Concept, Culture, Drama, Email, Emic, Entertain, Event, Evolve, Fads, Hits, Humor, Idea, Image, Imitate, Internet, Joke, Lesson, Map, Media, Memes, Mimic, Mind, Myth, Network, Please, Quote, Random, Rapid, Relatable, Repost, Share, Simple, Social, Spread, Text, Trend, Unit, Urban, User, Video, Viral, Word

Yesterday's Answer: Unsubscribe

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PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB-DPW/SWMD-107-(A-B)-CIF ROTA

SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 13, 2018 **TIME: 09:00 A.M.**

"PURCHASE OF ONE (1) CLASS "I" SPORTS UTITLITY VEHICLE, FIVE-PASSENGER, FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION (ROTA BRANCH)"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ JAMES A. ADA
SECRETARY, DPW

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Shi Feng
PMB 1821 Box 10002
Saipan, MP 96950
1 670-588-2778

Pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Scott Shi Shi Feng Plaintiff
vs.
Zheng Ying Defendant

FCD PA CIVIL ACTION NO. 18-0211

SUMMONS

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is given to you herewith, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to Shi Feng, whose mailing address is PMB 1821 Box 10002 Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Court for filing.

Your Answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this summons, Judgement by Default may be taken against you for the relief in the Complaint.

Dated this 18th day of May, 2018.

/s/
Clerk of Court
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

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(This ad is paid for by NMHC.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: Tuesday, July 24, 2018
TIME: 10:00 AM

NMHC IFB 2018-008

Repair and Renovation of the Division of Youth Services (DYS) Shelter

Bid packets will be available on **June 20, 2018,** at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of One Hundred Dollars ($100.00) is required for each set. Payment shall be by Cash, Credit Card, Money Order, Cashier's Check, and Certified Check payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation.

The provisions of the CNMI Procurement regulations, NMIAC 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

A **Mandatory Pre-Bid conference** will be held at **10:00 a.m.** on July 10, 2018, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan. Only those individuals who have paid the bid packet fee are allowed to attend the pre-bid meeting. All questions regarding this IFB must be submitted in writing to Mr. Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director, NMHC, Saipan, fax to (670)234-9021, email at jjmuna@nmhc.gov.mp, no later than 10 a.m., July 09, 2018. Response to questions shall be shared with all bidders.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Acting Office Manager, at (670)234-6866/7689 during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ **Aubry Hocog**
Chairwoman,
NMHC Board of Directors

/s/ **Herman S. Sablan**
Director,
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CP3 recruiting LeBron, but NBA star prefers LA

HOUSTON— The summer of LeBron James continues with more reporting on Monday that James doesn't want to be in Houston.

Stephen A. Smith said on his ESPN podcast on Monday that Rockets guard Chris Paul is telling people in Houston not to get their hopes up for the NBA's biggest free agent prize. Paul, a long-time friend of James, has reportedly said that James doesn't want to be in Houston and would rather end up in Los Angeles.

"Chris Paul is telling folks LeBron ain't trying to come to Houston, he wants to be in L.A.," Smith said.

His report jibes with Akron Beacon Journal reporter Marla Ridenour saying last week that James does not like the city of Houston.

If Paul genuinely believes James has his heart set on L.A., that's apparently not stopping him from trying to lure James. ESPN's Adrian Wojnarowski said Monday night that Paul is expected to remain with the Rockets and is focused on recruiting his friend to join him and James Harden in Houston.

In San Antonio, just three days after teammate Kawhi Leonard made it known he wants to be traded, we're learning San Antonio Spurs forward Rudy Gay also wants to hit the market.

A 12-year NBA veteran, Gay played well in limited duty for the Spurs, averaging 11.5 points and 5.1 rebounds in 21.6 minutes per game, mostly off the bench, for a Spurs team that won 47 games and reached the playoffs despite not having Leonard's superstar services for all but nine games. The 31-year-old's shooting statistics (31.4 percent from 3-point range) fell well below the career average he posted in 11 previous seasons with the Memphis Grizzlies, Toronto Raptors and Sacramento Kings.

Still, Gay assumed a starting role in the playoffs, averaging 12.2 points, 5.6 rebounds, 2.2 assists and 1.6 steals in 32 minutes a night during their five-game first-round loss to the Golden State Warriors.

Gay signed a two-year, $17.2 million deal with the Spurs in 2017, with an $8.8-million player option for this summer, presumably to add veteran depth behind Leonard on a team with championship aspirations. He had appeared in the playoffs just once in his previous 11 seasons. San Antonio's ceiling has lowered since news broke of Leonard's impending trade request, and with that Gay's situation changed drastically.

Gay may be challenged to find a team with enough cap space to beat the $8.8 million he would have earned by staying in San Antonio in 2018-19. That matters less to a player who has made more than $100 million in the NBA and made it clear he is prioritizing winning over earnings late in his career.

Gay made a similar decision last year, when he was coming off surgery to repair a torn Achilles tendon and declined a $14.3 million option to escape Sacramento in favor of the Spurs. He arrived in San Antonio with a reputation for putting up solid statistics on losing teams, but after contributing to an injury-riddled Spurs team that exceeded expectations, another contender might be willing to invest.

AP
Cleveland Cavaliers' LeBron James, front right, faces the defense of the Houston Rockets' Chris Paul in this undated file photo.

As for the Spurs, depending on how the Leonard situation plays out, Gay's decision could help them open up significant cap space this summer. Excluding Leonard, they have $56.5 million guaranteed committed to seven players in 2018-19, pending player option decisions by Danny Green and Joffrey Lauvergne in the coming weeks. Tony Parker, Kyle Anderson, Davis Bertans and Bryn Forbes are all free agents as well, and while they and whoever potentially replaces Leonard could eat up a healthy chunk of that space, there's at least a path toward San Antonio becoming a serious suitor in free agency now.

In Minnesota, Timberwolves guard Jamal Crawford has also declined his $4.5 million player option for next season and will become a free agent.

Crawford, a three-time Sixth Man of the Year, will become one of the top reserve scorers on the open market after facing Monday's deadline to decide on his option.

In his 18th NBA season, Crawford averaged 10.3 points and 20.7 minutes in 80 contests, marking his 16th consecutive year that he scored in double figures per game. He joined the Timberwolves on a two-year contract last offseason and served as a veteran leader for the franchise's first playoff season since 2004.

Crawford, 38, also has been durable throughout his NBA career, averaging 15 points, 3.4 assists and 2.3 rebounds per game.

Mickelson offered to withdraw from US Open

SOUTHAMPTON, N.Y. (AP)—Phil Mickelson found himself in a rules controversy on Saturday at the U.S. Open unlike any he'd ever experienced in his career, and according to his wife, he offered to withdraw from the tournament. But the USGA told him that wouldn't be necessary, and Mickelson played his final round on Sunday just hours after one of the strangest moments in recent major championship history.

During Saturday's Round 3, Mickelson, well off the pace in his hunt for the elusive career Grand Slam, slid a hard putt past the hole on No. 13, and then inexplicably chased it down while it was still rolling.

Mickelson was hit with an immediate two-stroke penalty. In interviews after the round, he not only appeared unrepentant, he confessed to gaming the rules in order to avoid hitting from an awkward location.

"The ball was going to go off in a bad spot," he said. "I gladly take the penalty. … It's my understanding of the rules. I've had multiple times where I wanted to do that, and I finally did it."

What was the response?

That corner-cutting confession set off waves of criticism on Twitter, with many observers calling for Mickelson to withdraw. The USGA decided to stick with its two-stroke penalty and nothing more, leaving it to Mickelson himself to determine any further punishment. And according to Amy Mickelson, who spoke with reporters after Mickelson's Sunday round, he did exactly that.

"I'm fully willing to withdraw," Mickelson told the USGA, according to Amy. But USGA CEO Mike Davis told him that wouldn't be necessary. (Mickelson could, of course, have withdrawn even if the USGA said he didn't need to, but did not.)

"He's a good man who had a bad moment," Amy Mickelson said. "He's not perfect — I'm not, you're not. … You might have a bad day at work or do something or say something that you regret. When [players] do it, it's on a very large stage and there's so much immediate reaction on Twitter and social media, it can overwhelm."

That's a fair point; the social media mob isn't exactly a calm, deliberative body. But Mickelson had several opportunities to take the action he deemed most appropriate on Saturday and Sunday, and he'll roll onward in his career living with the choices he made.

Griffin trying to fill Sherman's shoes with Seahawks

RENTON, Wash. (AP)— For the past six seasons, the Seattle Seahawks never had to worry about the player lining up on the left side of their secondary.

Richard Sherman locked down the left cornerback spot in Seattle's defensive backfield from the moment he took over as a starter in the middle of the 2011 season until he went down with a torn Achilles last November.

He made the Pro Bowl four times and was a first-team All-Pro on three occasions over his last six seasons with the Seahawks.

But with Sherman now in San Francisco, the Seahawks are asking Shaquill Griffin to move across to the left side as the team's top cornerback. It's a lot of responsibility for a second-year player.

"It's a little different step for me, but nothing that I can't focus on," Griffin said. "But I'm loving the left side and I'm honored to be on that side now. I'm here to help my team any way I can."

When Sherman was injured last season, Griffin remained on the right side of the defense with Jeremy Lane and Byron Maxwell taking over for Sherman on the left side.

With an offseason to adjust, the Seahawks decided to move Griffin to the left side and allow Maxwell to return to the right side where he started 17 games for Seattle over two seasons in 2013 and 2014.

"We think Maxie has done a really nice job on the other side, and we thought if we're going to balance it out and open it up (for competition), let's open it up on the right side and see what happens," coach Pete Carroll said.

Griffin was a third-round pick of the Seahawks last season and managed to work his way into the starting lineup after the first month of the season. He started 11 games and had 59 tackles with an interception and a sack in his rookie season.

The team has since added Shaquill's brother, Shaquem, to the linebacking group, selecting him in the fifth round of this year's draft. While Shaquem has received the headlines for making the NFL despite having his left hand amputated as a child, Shaquill will likely be the more important piece to Seattle's defense in 2018.

Nats, Yanks in unusual doubleheader split

WASHINGTON (AP)—It was a long and odd day, one that started with teenager Juan Soto homering in a game that officially was played before he made his major league debut.

Huh?

Soto delivered a tiebreaking, pinch-hit, two-run shot in the sixth inning of a game that began and was suspended because of rain last month, five days before he was called up from the minors for the first time, to lift the Washington Nationals to a 5-3 victory over the New York Yankees in the opener of an unusual semi-doubleheader Monday.

"Geez, he has a bright future. How old is he, 19? You don't see too many 19-year-olds doing what he's doing," Yankees slugger Aaron Judge said about Soto. "I'm excited to see him develop for years to come."

In Game 2, Judge made two key catches of balls hit by Trea Turner, including one on the warning track that bailed out Aroldis Chapman with two men on in the bottom of the ninth to end it, and the Yankees grabbed a 4-2 victory with the help of Aaron Hicks' go-ahead two-run homer.

That final-out fly "got me to hold my breath for a sec," Yankees manager Aaron Boone said.

Throw in a trade by Washington to add reliever Kelvin Herrera from the Kansas City Royals, full-throated chants of "Let's go, Yankees!" from portions of the sellout crowd of 42,723, and all in all, so much happened at Nationals Park.

"That," Nationals closer Sean Doolittle said, summing up things neatly, "was weird."

Game 1 resumed with the score 3-all and the Nationals about to bat in the bottom of the sixth. After Bryce Harper—who had a full beard back on May 15, when the game began, but was clean-shaven this time—struck out, and Anthony Rendon singled, Soto drove a 97 mph fastball from Chad Green (4-1) to the back of the second deck in right field.

"I thought he had a good chance to hit the ball hard," Nationals manager Dave Martinez said. "That was hard."

It was Soto's sixth homer since he was brought up from Double-A Harrisburg on May 20—and half have come against the Yankees. Soto stood and admired this one before beginning his trot around the bases.

"A lot of people tell me, `Hey, you're killing the Yankees,'" Soto said. "Everybody knows the Yankees, likes the Yankees. That feels pretty good."

AP

Washington Nationals relief pitcher Sammy Solis delivers a pitch during the sixth inning of the continuation of a suspended baseball game, Monday, June 18, 2018, in Washington.

Astros 5, Rays 4

In Houston, Alex Bregman hit a game-ending two-run double with one out in the ninth inning and the Houston Astros beat the Tampa Bay to match a franchise record with their 12th straight win.

Houston trailed 4-0 after three innings but cut the lead to one entering the ninth.

Sergio Romo (1-2) walked Marwin Gonzalez to start the ninth, then allowed a single to Max Stassi. Tony Kemp's sacrifice bunt moved both runners up, and Houston loaded the bases when George Springer reached on interference by catcher Wilson Ramos.

Bregman then drove a ball that bounced off the wall in left-center. He lifted both arms as he trotted into second base, and teammates mobbed him in the infield.

Collin McHugh (2-0) struck out two in a scoreless ninth for the win on a night Gerrit Cole walked a career-high five to help the Rays build the early lead.

Houston also won 12 straight in 2004 and 1999. The Astros will go for No. 13 on Tuesday with ace Justin Verlander on the mound.

Rangers 6, Royals 3

In Kansas City, Bartolo Colon earned his 244th win, passing Hall of Famer Juan Marichal for the most by a pitcher born in the Dominican Republic, and Texas beat skidding Kansas City.

Adrian Beltre hit a three-run homer for the Rangers, who won their third straight game. The 45-year-old Colon (4-4) allowed three runs and nine hits in six innings to break a tie with Marichal on the career wins chart.

Only right-hander Dennis Martinez has more victories among pitchers from Latin America. Martinez, a native of Nicaragua, won 245 games in the majors.

Ian Kennedy (1-7) is 1-13 in his last 28 home starts. The Royals have lost seven straight and 13 of 14. They've dropped 27 of 37 games at Kauffman Stadium, the worst home record in the majors. Kansas City is 2-14 in June, having been outscored 95-35.

Indians 6, White Sox 2

In Cleveland, Trevor Bauer shut out Chicago for seven innings before a rain delay ended his night, and Jason Kipnis homered to lead Cleveland over the sliding and sloppy White Sox.

Bauer (6-5) allowed just three hits, struck out eight and was in line to potentially pitch his first shutout. However, the game was halted by rain in the seventh inning for 35 minutes, and manager Terry Francona pulled the right-hander following the delay and 100 pitches.

Roberto Perez drove in two runs off Dylan Covey (3-2) as Cleveland improved to 15-4 in its last 19 home games against Chicago.

The White Sox committed three errors—one by Covey—in the first three innings, lost their fifth straight and dropped a season-high 23 games under .500.

Mets 12, Rockies 2

In Denver, Brandon Nimmo homered twice during a huge night at the plate, including an inside-the-park shot to begin the game, and New York finally gave Jacob deGrom some run support in a victory over.

Wilmer Flores and Devin Mesoraco also went deep for New York, which won its their third straight. Nimmo had four hits and set a career high with four RBI -- one night after his go-ahead, two-run homer with two outs in the ninth inning staved off defeat for the Mets and rallied them to a win at Arizona.

Phillies 6, Cardinals 5

In Philadelphia, left fielder Marcell Ozuna dived for and missed Aaron Altherr's two-run double with two outs in the 10th inning, allowing Philadelphia to rally past St. Louis.

Tommy Pham hit a solo homer in the top of the 10th, one inning after a wild pitch on a strikeout kept the game going. But the Phillies rallied.

Rhys Hoskins hit a bloop single to start the bottom of the 10th off Matt Bowman (0-2). Odubel Herrera dived headfirst into first to seemingly beat out an infield single, but the play was overturned by a video review. After Carlos Santana was intentionally walked, Bowman struck out Jesmuel Valentin.

Pirates 1, Brewers 0

In Pittsburgh, Trevor Williams pitched one-hit ball over seven innings and two Pittsburgh relievers closed out a two-hitter against Milwaukee.

Williams (6-4) struck out seven and walked two for his first victory in a month. Jordy Mercer drove in the lone run with a seventh-inning double, and the Pirates won for the fourth time in five games.

The Brewers entered the day leading the NL Central but suffered their third straight loss.

Diamondbacks 7, Angels 4

In Anaheim, Paul Goldschmidt hit an early two-run homer and Zack Greinke pitched seven-hit ball into the seventh inning of Arizona's 12th victory in 16 games in June.

Ketel Marte and Nick Ahmed also homered and Jeff Mathis had a two-run double for the Diamondbacks, who opened a two-game interleague set with their ninth win in 11 games. Jarrod Dyson had an RBI single, and the center fielder also leaped to take away a possible game-tying grand slam from Justin Upton in the seventh inning.

Marlins 5, Giants 4

In San Francisco, Miguel Rojas followed Lewis Brinson's RBI single with a go-ahead base hit as Miami rallied in the ninth inning and overcame an early four-run deficit to beat San Francisco.

Hunter Strickland (3-3), San Francisco's second reliever, blew his fourth save in 17 chances. He walked Brian Anderson to begin the ninth then surrendered J.T. Realmuto's RBI double.

Wawrinka off to good start in Wimbledon warmup

LONDON (AP)—Marin Cilic hopes another good run at Queen's Club will stand him in good stead for Wimbledon.

The top-seeded Cilic was champion in 2012 and runner-up in 2013 and 2017. He came close at Wimbledon last year, losing to Roger Federer after suffering from bad blisters in the final.

He made a winning start at Queen's Club on Monday, beating Fernando Verdasco of Spain, 6-3, 6-4.

"You can't live on the glory from last year, you have to show that again," Cilic said. "The grass-court season, it's short but it's sweet as well."

Another big-name winner was three-time Grand Slam champion Stan Wawrinka, who took apart Cameron Norrie of Britain, 6-2, 6-3.

Wawrinka, who spent six months out last year after a double knee operation, suffered a first-round loss at the French Open last month which allowed him extra time to prepare on grass.

"Every day is getting better and in general I'm happy with my level," Wawrinka said.

Sam Querrey eased past British wild card Jay Clarke, 6-3, 6-3 but fellow American Jack Sock, the sixth seed, lost to Daniil Medvedev, 7-5, 6-3.

Also, Gilles Muller, a semi-finalist last year, beat Denis Shapovalov of Canada, 7-6 (7), 7-6 (6).

The majority of the big guns kick off their campaigns on Tuesday; Novak Djokovic, Milos Raonic, and defending champion Feliciano Lopez are in action. Andy Murray makes his long-awaited return after an 11-month absence through injury when he takes on Nick Kyrgios.

Natibu tops Tuesday Night Bowling League

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Players of champion team Natibu pose for a photo during the awards ceremony for the Tuesday Night Bowling League last night at the Saipan Bowling Center.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Natibu prevailed in the Tuesday Night Bowling League, besting seven other teams.

Lucy Deleon Guerrero, Robert Talavera, Paul Pangelinan, Raul Dumapit, Percy Omechelang, and Rudy Sablan are the members of the champion team, which finished the league with a 38-26 win-loss record and won in the tiebreak (pins total) against the Terminator. Natibu collected 39,973 pins against the 36,225 of the Terminator.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Members of the Terminator gather for a photo after receiving their runner-up prize in the Tuesday Night Bowling League last night at the Saipan Bowling Center.

Atoy Banting, Ann David, Gloria Pagarao, Miguel Morta, Boy Sabate, Joe Digno, Ronald Batac, Argie Buensalido, and Danny Macaspac played for the Terminator, which also wrapped up the competition with a 38-26 mark. Alley Gators of Marie Candado, May and Randy Abreu, Roger De Guzman, Dodong Eparwa, Edward Baluyan, Jimmy De Guzman, and Benjie Cruz were ranked third after earning a 35-29 record and getting 36,930 pins.

The Top 3 finishers were recognized and handed their prizes in a simple award ceremony last night at the Saipan Bowing Center. Natibu took home $400, while the Terminator and Alley Gators won $400 and $250, respectively.

The other teams that joined this year's edition of the Tuesday Night League were No Pressure (34.5-29.5 record/35,295 pins); Mixers (33-31/36,496); Super Tech, Inc. (30.5-33.5/32,853); Yun Lang (30-34/35,195); and Shoot Balut (17-47/35,629).

EUROPEAN

From Page 28

ation with a loss to Iceland in the last 16.

The team has been transformed by Southgate since then. For all the placidness and togetherness within the group, Southgate has added persistence and doggedness.

"It shows the work we have put in these last few weeks," Walker said. "Togetherness and believing in ourselves.

Belgium 3, Panama 0

Unlike the other World Cup favorites that struggled through their opening matches, Belgium looked every part the title contender.

Having Dries Mertens and Romelu Lukaku capable of scoring the way they did against Panama helps.

"People know I am supposed to score goals," Lukaku said. "The most important thing to me is to win matches."

Lukaku scored twice in a six-minute span in the second half after Mertens' perfectly struck volley gave Belgium the lead, and the Red Devils beat overmatched Panama 3-0 Monday.

Saddled with massive expectations and a lineup of talent the envy of other teams in the tournament, Belgium showed flashes of being a team worthy of title consideration.

A shaky first-half performance by Belgium was replaced by a confident, attacking group in the second that was finally able to find gaps in Panama's defense and convert those chances into goals.

"In the World Cup you have to play 90 minutes. You have to be aware that in any game you go into, if you don't score early on, you have to be prepared to work hard and go through periods in which you are tested," Belgium coach Roberto Martinez said.

Sweden 1, South Korea 0

Sweden's height advantage got to South Korea.

In an effort to compensate for the disparity, South Korea coach Shin Tae-yong decided to use a backup player in goal because he is the tallest of the team's three keepers.

The gamble worked, but a penalty still gave the Swedes victory on Monday.

"We evaluated all of our goalkeepers and we felt like with the very tall Swedish players, we thought Jo Hyeon-woo would be the best and we thought he'd be a little bit quicker," Shin said. "So we chose him."

At 1.89 meters (6-foot-3), Jo is tallest of the South Korean goalkeepers. But he is normally No. 3 on the list when it comes to playing time.

Time running out for Messi to deliver

Time is running out for Lionel Messi to bring Argentina a World Cup, which would give him the one thing that's missing from a career that ranks among the greatest.

He turns 31 on Sunday, which means this World Cup could be his last chance. It also means that Thursday's match against Croatia is momentous. He has delivered for his club Barcelona—four Champions League titles, and nine La Liga championships in Spain—but still no major title for Argentina.

Messi missed a penalty—it was saved—in a disappointing 1-1 draw against Iceland in the opening group match. Argentina needs to beat Croatia to clear its path from the three-game group stage to the knock-out round of 16.

"We have to look at what we need to correct from the Iceland match, but we can't dwell on it," Argentina defender Gabriel Mercado said. "We have to look forward and win the next match against Croatia."

The Croatians opened with a 2-0 win over Nigeria, putting them in a better spot in Group D than Argentina when the teams meet on the banks of the Volga in Nizhny Novgorod.

Jorge Sampaoli hasn't used the same lineup twice in the 12 games he's been in charge for Argentina. He's juggling again, this time likely to start 22-year-old Boca Juniors forward Cristian Pavon up front with Messi. Pavon is quick and can play on the right or left and is likely to replace Angel di Maria.

As with all the Argentina coaches before him, Sampaoli has searched for the right partnership with Messi, who has often carried Argentina by himself and is always compared with Maradona, who brought Argentina its last World Cup title in 1986.

"I think that Jorge is looking at every position. We'll see what happens and what he decides on the day," Pavon said. "I feel confident and luckily things are going well for me, but I don't know yet if I'll be a starter

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also focuses on strength and conditioning," the veteran rugby player added.

Players hoping to make it to the national team are a mixed of experienced ones and newbies and Iakopo is happy to see that all of them are adapting well to their training regimens and showing a lot of camaraderie.

"They are fast learners and we call ourselves brothers. We refer to each other as brothers and we embrace the meaning of it because in the heat of battle, only family will come to our rescue, that we only have each other on the rugby field. We play as a family, we have one heart and one goal in mind and that is our strength," Iakopo added.

The rugby head also said there are plans to bring in professional players and national coaches from Samoa or New Zealand and probably Australia to help further hone the local bets' skills.

"In order for us to perform as a respected national team, we are going to need professional help. Our brothers have the ability to be the best and can play at national level rugby, but we need to train and practice like one," Iakopo said.

"I truly believe that Chamorros and Carolinians along with our other athletes of Micronesian origin are made and built for rugby. With proper training, this CNMI national rugby team will outperform any Polynesian player or team," he added.

Meanwhile, as part of their preparation for the Pacific Games, the islands' rugby players will face a selection from Guam in a training match this Saturday at the CPA Airport Field, starting at 2pm.

RACE

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the highest in the entire tournament.

Kaga duplicated Miyawaki's perfect record in the girls U14 with the former registering a 5-0 mark (including the semis and finals) in singles and 2-0 in the round-robin doubles (with Hyejin Elliot). Kaga was also undefeated in 10 sets in singles and only dropped one set in doubles. The 13-year-old had a game won percentage total of 79.3 (92-24) and 88.2 (60-8) and 66.7 (32-16) in singles and doubles, respectively.

Paik earned an 8-0 mark in the tournament—6-0 in singles and 2-0 in doubles for a sweep in the boys U14 division. He partnered with Daniel Kang in the doubles where the former had a winning percentage of 70. 6 (24-10) and won all for sets of their matches. Paik was also unscathed in 12 sets in singles and posted a game won percentage of 83 (73-15) for a total of 79.5 (97-25).

"Malika, Seung Jin, and Coume were expected to win and they did not disappoint. In the boys U12 event, I had hoped for David (Kwon) and Anthony (Gregoire) to top their event, but never expected that they will," Race said.

Kwon and Gregoire defeated all five teams in their group to rule the division. They posted a 3-0 victory against four squads (The Federated States of Micronesia's 2 teams, Guam 2, and North Boys Combined) and logged a 2-1 triumph over Guam 1. They won 28 sets and lost only three for an impressive 90.3 percent and had 182 games won against 56 losses (76.5 percent).

"All these successes in the past several years speak for our program. Our players are challenged to perform better and improve their game after each tournament," Race said.

Oceania Micronesian Regional Championships 2018

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The CNMI's Nick Gross stretches before doing the javelin throw event in the Oceania Micronesian Regional Championships 2018 last Thursday at the Oleai Sports Complex.

Two Guam runners are in a close race in the 3,000m run.

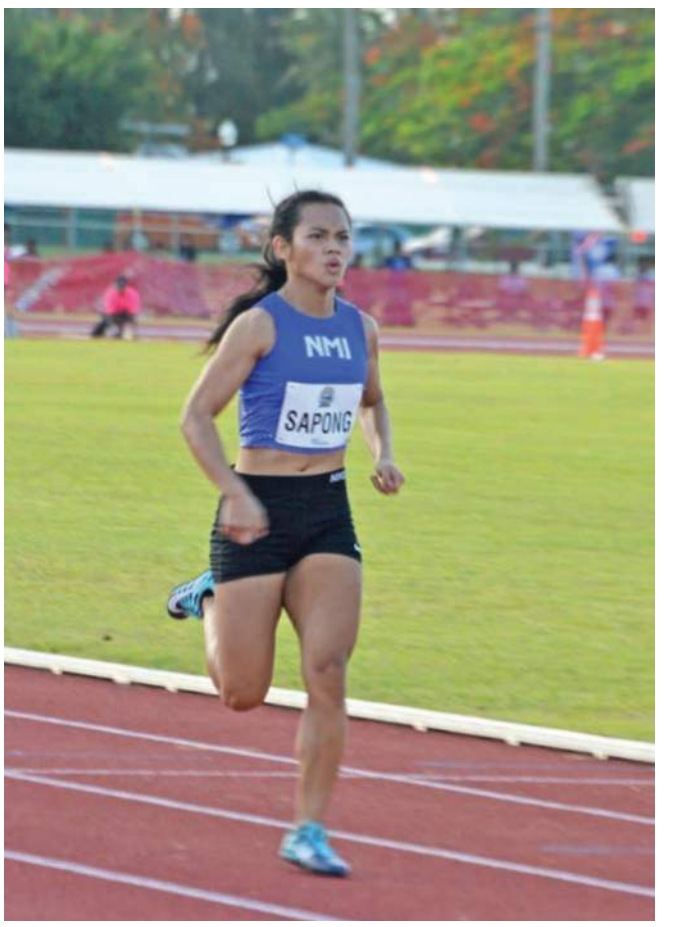
Runners push hard as they are at the halfway mark of the 100m sprint.

A Marshall Islands athlete does the long jump.

The CNMI's Tania Tan, right, leads Guam's Minami Cramer in the 3,000m run.

The CNMI's Dean Blake competes in the javelin throw.

The CNMI's Traven Quitugua, second left, tries to catch up with other runners during the 100m race.



The CNMI's Zarinae Sapong is on her way to a first place finish in the 100m run.

CP3 recruiting LeBron, but NBA star prefers LA

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Nats, Yanks in unusual doubleheader split

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Race basks in glory of team's success

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Seung Jin Paik gets ready at the baseline during his game against Richard Steele in the CNMI Junior Tennis Championships this year at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan hard courts. Paik competed in Guam and won both the singles and doubles events in the boys U14 division.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CNMI Junior National Team coach Jeff Race is savoring the sweet taste of their victory in the 2018 North Pacific Regional Championships.

"We won eight out of the 10 divisions played in the tournament. It was a fantastic result and a reflection of our strong junior tennis program," Race told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview yesterday.

What made the Commonwealth crew's domination in last week's competition more special is they did that feat with the absence of some of the team's key players.

"We were without our five top players, but our team still put on a very strong performance in Guam. Those players who were seeded in their division delivered, while those who we hope would top their events, but we know would have a hard time doing it exceeded expectations," the CNMI Sports Hall of Famer said.

Race was talking about girls U16 No. 1 seed Malika Miyawaki, U14 No. 1 Coume Kaga, and boys U14 No. 1 Seung Jin Paik.

Miyawaki was flawless in her division, winning all five matches in the singles to top the event and was also the champion in the doubles (with Maria Gregoire) after going 2-0. Miyawaki never dropped a single set in both the singles and doubles competitions and won 90.9 percent of her games (60 wins and 6 losses) in the singles and 82.8 in doubles (24-5) for an overall winning percentage of 88.4 (84-11)—

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CNMI rugby players all out in training

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
CNMI rugby players do drills during a workout session at the Latte Built Fitness Gym early this month.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Rugy Union has committed to represent the CNMI in the 2019 Pacific Games in Samoa, prompting its players to work hard in every training session in hopes of building a very competitive team for the quadrennial event

"Head coach Soni and I are building a national rugby team for the Pacific Games in Samoa. All other countries in the Pacific are sending their national teams, so we have to be in our best form," Northern Marianas Rugy Union president Stanley Iakopo told *Saipan Tribune*.

Iakopo informed Northern Marianas Sports Association, during the group's meeting early this month, that Northern Marianas Rugy Union will be sending 15 players plus two coaches in next year's Pacific Games, which will be held in Apia from July 8 to 20.

The rugby group currently has 31 players and the number is expected to increase as more people are getting interested in the sport. Trainings are held four times a week with Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday sessions taking place at the Americal Memorial Park grounds and Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex track oval or at the beach. The pool also works out at the Latte Built Fitness Gym.

"We push their training limits everyday. We always try to raise the bar to the next level. I am right next to them reminding them during training that we are representing our nation, our people, our islands, and our families. Our people are warriors, chiefs, we are powerful and talented and if we all work together and support one another we can conquer the inevitable. Head coach Soni and I will run through exercises over and over until we get it right. We test their minds, and especially their hearts to see how bad they really want it. They not only think it, they have to believe in it. The team as a whole is responding as if they've been training and playing rugby for years," Iakopo said.

"Rugby is an intense sport, it's not just about running but

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European teams sweep Day 5 of World Cup

VOLGOGRAD, Russia (AP)—Twice wrestled to the ground during the match, England captain Harry Kane finally evaded the Tunisian defense just as time was running out.

Kane found an open area of space at the far post and used his head to meet Harry Maguire's flick-on, scoring the winning goal Monday in a 2-1 victory at the World Cup.

It was relief for Kane and Gareth Southgate, who leapt into the air in delight as his World Cup debut as a coach got off to a winning start.

"The best teams in the world keep that belief in what they're doing," Southgate said, "and in the end they break the opposition down."

England shouldn't have found it so tough in its Group G opener against such opposition. Not after Kane got England off to a perfect start with an 11th-minute tap in. But after Kyle Walker softly conceded a penalty that Ferjani Sassi converted in the 35th, many of the fouls went against England.

"Maybe there was a bit of justice at the end," Kane said.

Finally, Kane showcased on the international stage the predatory instinct in front of goal that has served Tottenham so well. Only two years ago, the striker failed to find the net at the 2016 European Championship, which ended in humili-

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AP
England's Raheem Sterling, center, vies for the ball with Tunisia's Yassine Meriah, left, and Wahbi Khazri during their group G match at the 2018 soccer World Cup in the Volgograd Arena in Volgograd, Russia, Monday, June 18, 2018.